MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 APRIL 1982

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Israeli Reportage -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the 18 April Israeli Cabinet meeting that the Egyptians are making a "sincere effort" to correct violations of the peace treaty, but that no progress has been made on the 15 border demarcation disputes, Jerusalem radio reported. The previous day, Jerusalem television noted that Egypt had rectified some of the violations after checking Israeli claims in this regard. The Egyptian Army removed several units and installations from the buffer zone east of the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line in the Sinai, according to another television report.

Prime Minister Begin met on 16 April with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, who conveyed a "friendly" message from President Husni Mubarak, Jerusalem radio reported. Mubarak expressed appreciation for the way Israel has carried out its commitments to the peace treaty and stated that Egypt has acted likesise, according to HA'ARETZ. Jerusalem radio reported that in his 16 April negotiations with Ghali and with U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, Begin proposed that Israel, Egypt and the United States renew their commitment to the Camp David accords by signing a document pledging that Israel and Egypt continue normalization and diplomatic relations, that hostile propaganda be forbidden, that ties with the PLO be banned and that Israel complete the withdrawal from the Sinai. However, on his return to Israel on 18 April after 2 days of talks in Egypt, Stoessel told Begin that the Egyptians had refused to receive, scrutinize or discuss the Israeli draft document, the radio reported. The Egyptians said Israel's publication of these proposals had embarrassed them and had caused Egypt to adopt a tough stand in recent talks. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will arrive in Israel on 19 Spril, the radio noted, advancing the date of his scheduled visit by 2 days at Begin's request.

Egyptian View -- Confirming that 'Ali will visit Israel briefly on 19 April, MENA said the Egyptian foreign minister's visit is aimed at finding a solution to the Tabah border dispute before the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai on 25 April. However, in a 16 April interview with Monte Carlo radio, 'Ali said the border issue may require discussions going beyond 25 April, but that this will not affect the completion of the final withdrawal, which he predicted will take place on schedule.

Reporting on President Mubarak's 18 April meeting with Walter Stoessel, AL-AHRAM said Mubarak told the U.S. envoy that Egypt considers the Camp David accords and the peace treaty to be the only documents that contain the basis for achieving peace, according to MENA. Mubarak explained that there is no justification for entering into discussion on pledges and new commitments, particularly since Egypt has not been officially notified of a request for such commitments. Regarding Israel's accusations of Egyptian violations of the military agreements, AL-AHRAM said aerial surveys have confirmed that there are no inconsistencies on Egypt's side and that inconsistencies are being eliminated as they occur. A 16 April Cairo radio commentary opined that while Israel has so far been honestly committed to the peace treaty, Egypt has always been more committed to the treaty.

Israel

Sinai Withdrawal -- Activists belonging to Rabbi Kahane's Kakh movement threatened to commit suicide if the IDF begins to evacuate Yamit, Jerusalem television reported. However, the IDF began evacuating Yamit residents early on 19 April, Jerusalem radio said, after having closed the entire Sinai to civilians the previous day.

Gaza, West Bank Distrubances -- Two Arabs were killed by IDF patrols during riots in the Gaza Strip on 16 April, Jerusalem radio reported. Citing Palestinian medical sources, AFP said 40 Palestinians were injured, including 5 small children. A policemen and an Arab youth were injured in disturbances near Bethlehem and Nabulus on 18 April, according to IDF and Jerusalem radio reports.

Temple Mount UN Vote -- Prime Minister Begin has called on the United States to oppose the Jordanian-sponsored motion at the UN Security Council that condemns Israel for the Temple Mount incident, Jerusalem radio noted.

Egypt

Citing MAY, MENA reported that the Soviet Union has welcomed the return of its ambassador to Cairo at a time to be fixed by Egypt, which will likewise nominate an ambassador to Moscow.

PLO

The PLO is sending men and equipment across the Egyptian-Israeli border, but it is doing so "secretly and without the agreement of the Egyptian Government," Hani al-Hasan, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, stated in an interview with the Lebanese magazine MONDAY MORNING reported by Monte Carlo radio. Al-Hasan also announced that in response to the civil disobedience in the occupied territories, the PLO is getting ready to carry out military operations against Israel, adding that the PLO will continue to use all Arab fronts with Israel except the Lebanese border.

Al-Hasan also stated that Egyptian President Mubarak is earnestly working for a return to the Arab ranks, but that the PLO has set the condition that Mubarak stop speaking on behalf of the Palestinians, stop normalizing Egyptian-Israeli relations and close the Israeli Embassy in Egypt, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The Shi'ite Amal movement continued to engage in fierce clashes with Palestinian, communist, Nationalist Movement and Kurdish groups over the weekend, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Both the government and a higher coordination committee comprising leaders and representatives of the PLO, the National Movement, Amal and the Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) conducted intensive efforts to halt the fighting, which caused another 15 deaths on 17 April, bringing the total killed in 1 week to 60 and the number wounded to 150, according to Beirut radio. The coordination committee decided on 17 April to guarantee a cease-fire in the tense areas of Beirut and the south and to investigate the causes of the fighting.

Syrian Redeployment -- Citing Beirut diplomatic sources, London's ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported that Syria plans to withdraw its 20,000 ADF soldiers from Beirut by 25 April and redeploy them in Al-Biqa' or another area close to the Syrian-Lebanese border.

Iraq-Syria Conflict

Iraq will ask the Arab countries to impose sanctions on Syria for closing the Iraqi oil pipeline that passes through Syrian territory, Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim stated in an interview with the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY reported by Amman radio. He said Iraq will ask the Arab states to adopt firm measures against Syria for violating the principles of joint Arab action. Citing the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, the radio reported that Kuwait and several other Gulf countries are examining ways to assist Iraq.

Syria will not have any relations with the Iraqi regime from now on because the latter has killed scores of Syrians and committed many crimes against the Syrian economy, Deputy Prime Minister for Service Affairs Walid Hamdun told a SANA correspondent, according to Damascus radio. He said the Iraqi regime must be toppled as a precondition for a relaxation of the situation in the region.

Iran

Coup Plot, Shari'atmadari Situation -- Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri told a 17 April press conference that a group of "so-called ulema of Tehran and Qom" were involved in the recent abortive coup plot led by former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, IRNA reported. The plotters aimed to blow up Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's residence, he claimed. Citing Tehran sources, AFP reported that more than 1,000 people have been arrested in connection with the plot, including middle class professionals, clergymen and "dozens" of revolution guards. Citing KEYHAN, AFP also noted that Ahmad 'Abbasi, the son-in-law of Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari, was arrested in Qom on 14 April for supplying money to Qotbzadeh. According to Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, revolution guards subsequently disarmed and replaced Shari'atmadari's bodyguards in his Qom office and discovered "counter-revolutionary" material. However, Shari'atmadari's son said in a Hamburg press statement that "fanatics" and revolution guards had stormed the office on 16 April, attacking and arresting the occupants, DPA reported. Shari'atmadari remains under house arrest, his son said, and cannot receive visitors.

Kurdish Operations -- Revolution guards launched an offensive against Kurdish insurgents on 15 April, recapturing 13 villages in the Marivan-Kamyaran region, according to a Guards Corps statement broadcast by Tehran radio. Citing JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, AFP reported that government forces killed or wounded more than 200 Kurdish rebels in recent fighting.

Relations With Pakistan -- According to an economic protocol signed by the two countries, Pakistan will purchase 10,000 barrels of crude oil per day from Iran, Tehran radio reported. The two countries also agreed to continue cooperation in drilling and exploration, the radio added.

At a meeting with visiting Pakistani Minister of Finance and Commerce Ghulam Ishaq Khan, President 'Ali Khamene'i proposed the formation of an Islamic common market, according to the radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- An Iraqi helicopter was shot down on the Abadan front on 16 April, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced. Another Iraqi aircraft was downed by the Iranian Air Force on 18 April, according to a communique broadcast by Tehran radio.

Mediation Effort -- A subcommittee of the Islamic Good Offices Committee left Jidda to hold talks with officials in Iran and Iraq on finding a solution to the Iranian-Iraqi dispute, Riyadh radio reported. The committee, which is being led by Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure and includes Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti, will first visit Tehran and then proceed to Baghdad.

Gulf Affairs

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah said the GCC Ministerial Council will meet in Riyadh on 20 April, QNA reported. The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' said the extraordinary meeting is being held to evaluate Arab and Gulf developments, according to KUNA.

YAR

Truce Proposal -- The National Democratic Front (NDF) has proposed a truce to the San'a' Government during which the front would stop all military operations provided government forces returned to their barracks and stopped the arrest of individuals and all military preparations, Monte Carlo radio reported, citing an NDF statement issued in Aden.

NDF Leader Interview -- NDF leader Ahmad 'Umar Sultan accused North Yemeni authorities of renouncing agreements made with the NDF, according to an interview reported by the Damascus paper AL-BA'TH. He affirmed that the NDF would not be intimidated by the repressive policies and assassinations carried out by the authorities and their ally, the Muslim Brotherhood.

Yemeni-Syrian Relations

A Syrian Ba'th party delegation visited the PDRY from 9 to 15 April, Damascus radio reported. In a joint statement the Yemeni Socialist Party expressed the PDRY's solidarity with Syria in its confrontation of internal and external plots, and the Ba'th delegation asserted Syria's support for the PDRY in its confrontation with "imperialist and reactionary plots," the radio said.

Meanwhile, former Syrian Prime Minister Lt Gen Amin al-Hafiz, who now resides in Iraq, arrived in the Yemen Arab Republic to acquaint himself with the achievements of the victorious September revolution, according to San'a' radio.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 075 *19 April 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Official on Military Actions Against Israel [VOL] A 1
MONDAY MORNING Interview [Monte Carlo] A 1
'Arafat Talks to Jurist Seminar on Situation [VOP] A 1
Jurist Seminar Issues Solidarity Statement [VOP] A 2
Palestinian Official on European, French Stands [Doha AR-RAYAH 18 Apr] A 4

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

LE MONDE Cites Prime Minister on 'Plot' [4 Apr] C 1

KUWAIT

Council of Ministers Holds Emergency Session C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

Indian Prime Minister Gandhi Arrives for Visit C 3
Report on Schedule C 3
Comments on Relations C 4
Chatti Reports New Mediation in Gulf War C 5

PDRY

National Democratic Front Proposes Truce [Monte Carlo] C 6
YSP, Ba'th Party Release Joint Communique C 6
YSP Organ on U.S. 'Conspiratorial Moves' [ATH-THAWRI 17 Apr] C 7

EGYPT

Negotiations on Israeli Withdrawal Continue D 1
Ghali on Israeli Visit D 1
Talks With U.S. Begin D 1
Spokesman on Arbitration D 1
'Ali on Egypt, Peace D 2
Two Sinai Subcommittees Meet D 2
Meetings Continue D 3
Ghali Briefs Mubarak on Talks D 3
'Ali Suggests Israel Visit D 3
'Ali on Israeli, USSR Ties D 4
'Ali Interviewed D 5
'Ali on Camp David D 6
Israel Visit Announced D 7
Ghali Makes Statement D 7

AL-AHRAM Rejects Signing Additional Pledges [19 Apr] D 8
AL-AHRAM Discusses Mubarak's Letter to Begin [17 Apr] D 8
AL-JUMHURIYAH Stresses Complete Sinai Withdrawal [17 Apr] D 9
Cairo Press Rejects Conditions Praises Peace D 9
Interior Minister Warns Against Disruptive Acts D 10
Mubarak Lauds National Unity in Easter Message D 10

LEBANON

Clashes Resume in Southern Beirut Suburb 16 Apr G 1
Clashes Continue G 1
Coordination Committee Calls for Cease-Fire G 1
Palestinians, Nationalists Reach Cease-Fire G 2
President Sarkis Addresses Cabinet Meeting G 3
Minister al-Wazzan Begins Security Initiative G 3
U.S. Military Attache Wounded by Sniper in Beirut G 4

SYRIA

Deputy Premier Hamdun Scores Iraqi Regime H 1
Damascus TV Justifies Closing Border With Iraq H 1
Damascus Radio Calls for Toppling Iraqi Regime H 2
Al-Kasm Receives Message From USSR's Tikhonov H 3
Hafiz al-Asad Receives Arab League's Klibi H 3

ISRAEL

Begin Aide Optimistic on Resolving Sinai Dispute I 1
Begin Proposes 5-Point Camp David Reaffirmation I 1
Further Details I 2
Policymakers Split [POST 18 Apr] I 2
Stoessel Returns From Cairo, Comments on Talks I 3
Meets Begin I 4
Mubarak Promises Sharon 'Renewed Cooperation' I 4
Further Details I 4
Cabinet 'Optimistic' Over Solving Dispute I 5
Egypt's Mubarak Sends Message to Begin I 6
Termed 'Very Friendly' I 6
Mubarak Said Annoyed I 6
Cabinet Discusses Egyptian Violations 18 Apr I 6
Begin Sends Note to Reagan Over UN Proposal I 7
Egypt's 'Ali 'Confident' on Resolving Disputes I 8
Meets Begin I 8
Egyptian Army Pulls Back Units in Sinai I 9
Entire Sinai Declared Closed Military Zone I 9
Begin: Yamit Evacuation Must Be Completed I 9
Talme Yosef Evacuation Completed; 'Azmona Begins I 10
MK's To Urge Reconsideration of Sinai Withdrawal I 10
Yosef Harif Discusses Egyptian Treaty Violations [MA'ARIV 16 Apr] I 11

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Communique on Hungarian Foreign Minister's Visit Q 1
University Center Closed Over 'Possible Strife' [AFP] Q 1
Report French Still Held in Algeria Dismissed [AFP] Q 1

LIBYA

Yugoslav Vice President Ikonic Arrives 17 April Q 2
Economic Talks Held Q 2
Departs for Home 18 April Q 2
Hungarian Construction Minister Arrives 16 April Q 2
Hungarian Military Officials Sign Protocol Q 2
Talks Held With Hungarian Housing Minister Q 2

MAURITANIA

Malian Foreign Minister Brings Message Q 3

MOROCCO

Hassan Condemns Israeli Actions on West Bank [LE MATIN 26 Mar] Q 3

SUDAN

Iraqi Envoy Arrives With Message for Numayri Q 4
Envoy Leaves 17 April Q 4
SSU Central Committee Supports Iraq in War Q 5

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

PNDC Chairman: Mercenaries Recruited for Coup T 1
Rawlings Statement on Reopening Universities T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Cuba's Farah Arrives for Construction Talks U 1
Talks Begin 16 April U 1

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Announces General Offensive 17 April U 1
Klopper Notes Security Force Deaths in Ambush U 2
Surface, Air Units Deployed Against 'Insurgents' U 2
Security Forces Kill Six 'SWAPO Terrorists' U 2
SWAPO Official on Contact Group Proposals [Addis Ababa] U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Spokesman Denies SWAPO General Offensive Claim U 4
Malan: Security Forces 'in Total Control' U 4
UN Namibia Appointment Called 'Provocative' U 4
Botha Rules Out 'Unitary' Government for Blacks U 5
Official Urges Coordinated Nuclear Energy Plan U 5

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Announces New Cabinet Appointments U 5
Salisbury Name Reportedly Changed to Harare [AFP] U 6
Clash Reported Between Army, Nkomo Supporters [AFP] U 6

PLO OFFICIAL ON MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

NC181845 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Today, the deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, reviewed the latest developments with Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat.

Al-Hasan said the PLO will launch military operations against Israel, but not from across the Lebanese border. He added that the PLO had used and will continue to use all Arab fronts for launching its operations against Israel. Al-Hasan confirmed Israeli accusations that the PLO is smuggling weapons and armed persons across the Egyptian border and added: We are carrying out this activity secretly; there is no agreement between us and Egypt.

On the possibility of Egypt returning to the Arab ranks, Al-Hasan affirmed that President Husni Mubarak is earnestly working for the return to the Arab ranks. However, he added: The road of his return to the Palestinians will not be easy, because the PLO has set the condition that Mubarak should stop speaking on behalf of the Palestinians and stop normalizing Egyptian-Israeli relations and, consequently, close the Israeli Embassy in Egypt.

MONDAY MORNING Interview

JN181818 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Hani Al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has given an interview to the English language Lebanese magazine MONDAY MORNING in which he asserted that the PLO is preparing to carry out military operations against Israel, adding that the PLO will continue to use all Arab fronts with Israel with the exception of the Lebanese border. Al-Hasan pointed out that these military operations are in response to the civil disobedience inside the occupied territories, referring to the upsurge of the Palestinian people and the bloody events in the occupied Arab territories.

It is to be recalled that last week Israel announced that it had arrested two fedayeen from the Fatah organization who had come from Jordan. Israeli military authorities also reported clashes with Palestinian fighters on the border with Jordan.

Al-Hasan also asserted that the PLO sends men and equipment over the border with Egypt. The process, he added, takes place secretly and without the agreement of the Egyptian Government. Recently, Israel threatened not to withdraw from the Sinai if cooperation is established between Egypt and the PLO.

On a probable Israeli offensive against Lebanon, Al-Hasan said this should not be believed at present. He expressed his dismay over Arab reactions to events in the occupied Arab territories, particularly following the assault operation in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

'ARAFAT TALKS TO JURIST SEMINAR ON SITUATION

NC190747 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] -- met last night with delegations participating in the international jurist seminar being held in Beirut in solidarity with the Palestinian people and the heroic detainees in the prisons of the occupation authorities. The meeting was attended by Jamal as-Syranti, [PLO] Executive Committee member and Palestinian Jurists Union secretary general.

Brother Abu 'Ammar presented the political situation in its local, Arab and international dimensions, focusing on the political and cultural significance of the sincere participation of the representatives of international jurist and legal institutions in supporting our people's struggle and the steadfastness in the Zionist prisons of our heroic detainees, who represent glowing torches in the struggle for freedom and expose the most atrocious racist violation of human rights.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also reviewed before the jurist delegations participating in the seminar the events of the uprising and the principal position this uprising has in the course of events in our area. This uprising, through its organic connection with the Palestinian revolution fighters' struggle, represents the most established fact in our Arab area and confirms the impossibility of achieving any peace or stability by disregarding the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to return, to self-determination and to establish an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian national soil.

The brother commander in chief then strongly attacked the American stand, which embodies actual participation on all levels in the continuing Zionist aggression against our people and cause. He said the U.S. administration, which has used the so-called veto right against a resolution condemning the killing of students in the occupied homeland, proves that it is more than an accomplice in the aggression.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also hailed the firm stands of solidarity the friendly peoples, states and organizations of the world are adopting toward our people and their legitimate struggle, because this great solidarity represents an important depth for our cause and revolution and embodies the enemy's isolation and exacerbating crisis.

At the end of the meeting, the brother commander in chief thanked all delegations participating in the international jurist seminar, emphasizing that continued support on this level will have the most important political and moral effect on the struggle of our people and their steadfast heroes in the prisons of the occupation authorities -- the struggle which will inevitably culminate in victory, God willing.

JURIST SEMINAR ISSUES SOLDARITY STATEMENT

NC190937 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] The international jurist seminar for solidarity with the Palestinian people and the heroic Palestinian detainees in the prisons of the occupation authorities wound up its meetings at the Beaurivage Hotel in Beirut last night and issued a statement, the text of which follows:

The participants in the international seminar for solidarity with Palestinian prisoners and the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied territories, which convened on 17 and 18 April 1982 in Beirut, express their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people, who are valiantly confronting the Zionist occupation of their homeland and its continued violations of human rights and all international treaties and agreements as well as its constant aggression against the sanctuaries and national heritage of the Palestinian people.

The participants in the seminar declare their strong denunciation of the inhuman treatment to which the Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons are being subjected -- bestial torture and violation of the simplest human rights -- which has been condemned by all juridical and human organizations and exposed by the international press. They realize the racist and expansionist nature of Israel which, since 1948, has persisted in usurping the whole of the Palestinian territory and then part of Syrian territory.

They reveal the U.S. conspiracorial role in supporting, abetting and encouraging Israeli aggression by all military, economic, financial and political means. They appreciate the just struggle the Palestinian people are waging to achieve their aims of self-determination and of establishing their independent state on the soil of their homeland under the leadership of the PLO despite all forms of plotting and aggression. In view of these points, the participants in the seminar condemn the continuation of Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and against Arab territory as well as Israel's constant violations of human rights in the occupied territories and in the prisons, which lack the simplest human conditions guaranteed by all international laws and agreements, particularly the Geneva Convention.

They also declare their support for the Palestinian people in their continuing uprising against occupation, hegemony and the usurpation of land. They emphasize that all measures Israeli authorities have taken by usurping and annexing the land and by building settlements are null and void and contrary to all laws. They also affirm that the continued aggression against the Palestinian people constitutes a violation of the UN Charter and resolutions and of all human values and a return to the era of colonialism, usurpation and piracy.

The participants in the seminar condemn the unlimited U.S. support for the aggressive and expansionist Israeli policy and the U.S. stand at the side of the Zionist aggression, isolated from the international community, which has denounced Israel's violations of human rights and its inhuman practices as well as its annexation of the occupied Arab territories.

They also declare their complete solidarity with the Palestinian people's just struggle for self-determination and the establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their only legitimate representative. They denounce the attempts to fragment and divide the Palestinian people into those who are inside and those who are outside [the homeland]. The conferees, therefore, emphasize their rejection of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-American [as received] conciliation treaty with all its clauses affecting the Palestinian people's right and sovereignty over their land.

The participants in the seminar salute the heroic Lebanese people for standing beside the Palestinian people in their just struggle and for sharing their suffering and their confrontation of the continuing Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon and the Palestinian people. The participants in the seminar deem it their duty to mobilize jurists and juridical organizations throughout the world to expose Israel's practices and human rights violations by calling for an expanded international symposium to be held in a Western capital to expose all crimes the Zionist authorities are committing against the Palestinian people and the Arab territories -- a symposium from which committees will emanate to find the facts and expose all the Israeli authorities' inhuman practices against Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons. They also call on all juridical bodies in the world to stand in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in the occupied territories and to regard 17 April of every year a day of solidarity with these prisoners and with the right of mankind to live in freedom, dignity and with sovereignty over his land.

The conferees emphasize the Palestinian prisoners' right to enjoy all rights recognized by international law, rules and norms governing the treatment of prisoners of war.

Long live the world jurists' struggle in support for the Palestinian prisoners! Long live the day of solidarity with the Palestinian prisoners and detainees! Long live the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people!

The seminar has also addressed an appeal to the Human Rights Commission and the International Red Cross. The following is the text of the appeal:

The participants in the international seminar of Palestinian jurists for solidarity with the people's uprising in the occupied territory and the Palestinian prisoners calls on you to see to it that the harsh treatment of 4,000 prisoners and detainees in 14 Israeli prisons is stopped. These prisoners are being subjected to atrocious treatment aimed at undermining their national steadfastness and threatening their lives through various forms of organized and programmed torture which has already led to the martyrdom of over 70 prisoners and the affliction of many of the prisoners with one or more diseases.

Therefore, we call on you to exert your utmost efforts and to bring pressure to bear on the Israeli authorities to put an end to the policy of slow death they are adopting against these strugglers, to halt the attacks and the collective punishment practiced against them and to see to it that their prison conditions are improved and that those who are seriously ill are released.

We also call on you to work at sending international factfinding committees to examine the conditions of the prisoners and detainees and to see to what extent the Israeli authorities are responding to your efforts.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL ON EUROPEAN, FRENCH STANDS

GF190531 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1820 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Doha, 18 Apr (WAKH) -- Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, has said the council will adopt a resolution to boycott the European Consultative Committee and not to have any dealings with it if its political committee delegation visits occupied Jerusalem in May.

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH published today, Mr al-Fahum said: "We will adopt certain economic measures especially if the members of this delegation are asked to travel to Jerusalem by their governments. Other measures will be taken against these governments if evidence of this is established." It is known that the decisions of the European Consultative Committee do not bind any European country, unlike the decisions of the European Parliament.

Mr al-Fuham criticized France's stand on the Palestinian issue. He said: "The timing of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Israel was wrong because it came after the annexation of the Golan and during daily Israeli threats to the Palestinian and Lebanese people." He said he believes Mitterrand's visit was meant to break Israel's isolation from the world. "France has to take into account its interests in the Arab homeland," he said.

BAHRAIN

LE MONDE CITES PRIME MINISTER ON 'PLOT'

PM161529 Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Apr 82 p 3

[Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Seventy-Three Islamic Militants Face Death Penalty"]

[Text] Manama -- In view of the number of defendants, the serious nature of the crimes with which they are charged and the scope of its international implications, the trial taking place in the supreme court in Bahrain is probably the biggest ever held in a Gulf amirate. Seventy-three Islamic soldiers -- whose average age is apparently around 20 -- face the death penalty. Four charges have been made against them: membership in an illegal organization, possession of firearms and explosives, plotting to overthrow the regime by force and intelligence contacts with a foreign power. Since the last crime carries the death penalty, the public prosecutor has called for it for all the defendants without taking account of the fact that no attempt was made to implement the plot, always supposing that the existence of such a plot could be demonstrated.

Because of the authorities' strange silence, virtually nothing is known about the ins and outs of this mysterious affair. It was on 13 December that the "plot" was announced at the same time as the arrest of six young peole during a stopover at the airport in Dubai, the neighboring amirate, allegedly en route from Iran to Bahrain. So far, although the trial started 13 March, the identity of the 73 "conspirators" has not been officially revealed. It has simply been revealed through the press that 60 are Bahrains, 11 Saudis, 1 Kuwaiti and 1 Omani. According to Islamic opposition circles which seem to be well informed, 35 of them are schoolchildren or students, 20 are civil servants, 14 are workers, 3 are unemployed and 1 is a storekeeper. Some of them are apparently between 15 and 16 years old, but the justice minister maintains that they have all reached the age of majority. There is also mystery surrounding their political allegiance: The "illegal organization" mentioned by the bill of indictment is unofficially named as the "Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain," but it is the "Organization of Islamic action in Iraq" that states in a communique that the "mujahidin" arrested in Dubai are its members and that they were preparing to go not to Manama but to Baghdad....

How can the truth be known when the trial is taking place in the strictest secrecy, in a large villabe, (Jao), which is besieged on all sides by security forces to bar access to the families of the accused and to local and foreign observers? Although it has been 4 months since they were arrested, the accused have still not been allowed visits from their relatives. Their lawyers, most of whom have been officially appointed, were only able to talk with them after the second session of the trial on 27 March and only for less than 1 hour in the presence of members of the security services.

The defense pleaded in vain that the judiciary was incompetent in its present composition. Indeed, the justice minister, the public prosecutor and the supreme court judge -- in other words those responsible for investigating and judging the case -- are all members of the ruling Al Khalifah family, which regards itself as the target of the plot? The court's presiding judge, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah, even rejected a defense request for an independent medical commission to be set up to determine whether the defendants had been "terribly tortured" as they claim, on the grounds that the expertise of the forensic pathologist -- himself a government official -- was "fully adequate." Thus, one of the 17 defense lawyers, barrister's leader 'Isa al-Hamad, withdrew from the group stating simply that he could not carry out his task.

The Scenario of the "Felony"

What does this "great plot" in fact involve? The scenario of the "felony" has never been officially described, but has been summarized in the local newspapers which are inspired by the government to varying degrees, without however removing the perplexity of impartial observers. While remaining vague, the successive pictures put forward do not tie up and have have been changed over the course of the weeks. At the very beginning it was a conspiracy aimed not only at the Al Khalifah dynasty but at all Gulf regimes. However, the rather skeptical or even politely frosty reactions from various government leaders -- aside from those of Saudi Arabia and Oman -- reduced the affair to less ambitious proportions. The defendants' real intention, it was explained, was to make a series of attacks, occupy Manama's key buildings, especially the radio and television building, and proclaim an Islamic republic modeled on Khomeyni's.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister and brother of the king, broke his customary silence to "enlighten world opinion, which is more important to us than all the arms in the world." "It is important that people realize," he told us, "that Khomeyni's Iran is trying to export a revolution based on religious sectarianism by any means it can. Those people have succeeded in recruiting fringe elements in many countries -- all kinds of discontented people prepared to betray their homeland. Unfortunately, they found Shi'ites of that type in our country who were brainwashed in Iran, where they were trained and armed before being sent to Bahrain last December."

Unless I am mistaken, this is the first time that a senior official has called into question the Shi'ites, who are estimated to comprise 60 to 70 percent of the population in Bahrain, while the ruling family and the governing elite are Sunnis. "I am sad to have to admit," the government chief continued, "that Khomeyni's supporters have scored a point in reviving sectarianism in our country and in arousing if not hatred at least an artificial split between Sunnis and Shi'ites."

[Question] Is it conceivable that a group of 73 people could overthrow the Manama regime?

Shaykh Al Khalifah answered evasively: "Those criminals are unscrupulous and are capable of anything since they are convinced that death in the fight for Islam opens the gates of heaven to them. They were trying to cause disturbances by sabotage and murder...." The key word used by the prime minister is "disturbances." Indeed, the start of anarchy would put an end if not to the regime at least to the financial position held by Bahrain which, with its 120 banks, is among the three leading countries in the world with Singapore, Hong Kong and Panama.

Washington to the Rescue?

"My main concern," Shaykh Al Khalifah continued, "is that of security, and I am prepared for anything except dialogue or compromise to maintain order. Although we suffer from a lack of prisons we are arresting all suspects and interrogating them as long as we have to, for months if necessary." The law allows the authorities to intern opponents without trial for a renewable period of 3 years. The number of internees totals 3,000 according to the "Islamic Liberation Front," and "200 at the very outside" according to the government chief. However, even the latter figure is excessive compared with a national community of 240,000 people. On the scale of the French population, that would mean some 40,000 political prisoners in our country....

[Question] What if repression proved inadequate?

The government chief replied in a blunt and determined way: "At present, we grant military facilities to the United States on certain conditions. However, I say clearly, at the risk of upsetting some people: If need be I would not hesitate to conclude a new agreement with Washington. Is America not supplying aid to El Salvador to ensure its security and stability? We are not going to allow Iran and its agents to destroy our country without reacting....

The representatives of the "Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain" categorically deny the existence of a plot hatched by Tehran: "That is a police provocation," they told us, "mounted by the usurpers of power, the Al Khalifah family, aimed at terrorizing the population, stifling any opposition voice and justifying the so-called security agreements concluded between Saudi Arabia and most of the unpopular Gulf regimes allied to U.S. imperialism. But the Islamic revolution will triumph whatever they do...."

In fact the (Jao) trial is both vital and embarrassing for the authorities. Indeed, it raises at least two dilemmas. Excessive publicity aimed at alerting world opinion to the "Iranian danger" -- Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad told us -- is likely to alarm international business circles too much. "Capital is cowardly by nature," he added. In addition, executing the young "conspirators" would make them into dangerous "martyrs," while merely giving them prison sentences would provide the opposition with a pretext for maintaining permanent agitation. Some government members regard the last hypothesis as the lesser evil.

"Exemplary sentences with deterrent value would be salutary," Mr al-Mu'ayyad told us in that connection, "but I can tell you now that it strikes me as highly improbable that the conspirators will all be sentenced to death." The information minister added in a paternal tone: "Despite everything they are children, our boys. Did I not take part in antinuclear and anti-British demonstrations when I was a student in England?"

KUWAIT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HOLDS EMERGENCY SESSION

LD171002 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0902 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Apr (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers today held an emergency meeting chaired by the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, and attended by National Assembly Speaker Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adsani.

A senior Kuwaiti official spokesman, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, said "A number of local and Arab matters of special importance" were discussed during the meeting. He did not give any other details about what took place during the meeting, which was also attended by royal adviser 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi.

Last week, Al-'Atiqi was sent by Shaykh Jabir to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad with a message from the amir of Kuwait. It was announced at the time that the message was part of the Arab efforts to remove the disputes between Syria and Iraq. Syria recently closed its border with Iraq and stopped the flow of Iraqi oil through its territory.

Husayn said that, after the council discussed the topics before it and listened to the directives of his highness the amir, the meeting was adjourned so that the Council of Ministers can continue study of these topics at its next meeting. The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers holds its weekly meetings on Sundays.

SAUDI ARABIA

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER GANDHI ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Report on Schedule

LD161614 Riyadh SPA in English 1203 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Jidda, 16 Apr (SPA) -- India's prime minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi would be arriving here tomorrow on a four-day state visit to Saudi Arabia for important talks with the kingdom's leaders on means of enhancing economic cooperation between the two countries.

Mrs Gandhi, leading a high-ranking India delegation, would also review with Saudi leaders bilateral cooperation in various fields and international issues of mutual interest led by the Middle East problem. Mrs. Gandhi in a recent interview with AL-RIYADH daily had renewed India's full support for the Saudi Arabian peace plan for the Middle East, describing it as a "new hope, conforming with India's stand." She had also praised the important role played by the kingdom in [words indistinct] her upcoming visit would provide an excellent chance to exchange views with Saudi leaders on a wide range of issues of mutual interest.

On arrival here, the Indian leader would be greeted by governor of Makkah, Prince [words indistinct] Aziz. She would visit Saturday afternoon a desalination plant in Jidda. Mrs Gandhi and her accompanying delegation would proceed to Riyadh for official talks with Saudi leaders. She will be greeted on arrival in the capital city by Crown Prince Fahd, the deputy premier. King Khalid would host a banquet Sunday night in honour of Mrs. Gandhi and her accompanying delegation. Her schedule on Monday morning includes a visit to the Planning Ministry. She would also watch a horse race organised by the equestrian club at the Malaz district. Mrs. Gandhi would also receive representatives of the Indian community in the Saudi capital and proceed the same day to Zahran, where she will visit the University of Petroleum and Minerals. She would be returning home from Zahran the same day.

In a special interview with SPA, the Indian ambassador to the kingdom said a joint Saudi-Indian committee would be set up during Mrs Gandhi's visit here. The setting up of the committee was the outcome of an economic and technological accord signed by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal during his recent visit to New Delhi. He said the committee will hold its regular meetings to enhance Saudi-Indian cooperation in scientific, technological and economic fields.

The ambassador said: "India attaches great importance to Mrs. Gandhi's visit to Saudi Arabia." The Indian diplomat called for taking appropriate action to stop Israeli arrogances in the Middle East region and force it to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to establish their own state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole representative of the Palestinians."

Comments on Relations

LD171244 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] In a press statement made following her arrival in Jidda today, Her Excellency Mrs Indira Gandhi reaffirmed that her visit to the kingdom will give her an opportunity to discuss with Saudi officials ways of strengthening cooperation and relations between India and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which will be beneficial to both friendly countries. She pointed out that the people and government of India harbor good feelings toward the government and people of the kingdom. She said that bilateral relations, within the framework of existing fruitful cooperation, are strong, and she reaffirmed her support for the Arab peace plan the kingdom has proposed for the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

In a statement published by AL-RIYADH today, Mrs Gandhi described the plan as representing a new hope. She said India has welcomed the plan because it conforms with the fundamental principles needed for finding a solution to the Middle East crisis. She added that the kingdom has an important role in solving international problems.

The Indian prime minister then referred to the Palestinian issue, reaffirming her country's continued support for and backing of this issue and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. She said that this stems from the principles laid down by Gandhi and Nehru. She expressed hope that the Palestinian people will achieve their aspirations so that they can play their role in the international arena.

Regarding the results of the visit of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to India and its importance for Arab-Indian relations, Mrs Gandhi reaffirmed that the visit is especially important as evidence of the strong ties between India and the Arabs, including the Palestinians.

With regard to Arab-Indian relations, Mrs Indira Gandhi denied that these relations have ever been weak. She described these relations as friendly and strong, crowned with mutual interest by both sides. Mrs Gandhi said that India has supported and always supports the Arab question in international forums. Arab and Indian aims within the Nonaligned Movement and the Group of 77 are the same.

With regard to the Iraqi-Iranian war, Mrs Gandhi expressed her regret at this war between two friendly states within the Nonaligned Movement. She said that her country is a member of the four-nation group set up by the Nonaligned Movement to bring the views of both countries closer.

With regard to relations between India and Pakistan, on the one hand, and India and Afghanistan, on the other, the Indian prime minister expressed hope that the efforts currently being made for reconciliation between the two neighbors will be fruitful and that signs of success of these efforts will usher in the resumption of normal relations between the two countries. Mrs Gandhi also announced anew her country's opposition to any foreign military presence or any kind of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs or the affairs of any other state. Mrs Indira Gandhi reaffirmed that Muslims in India, who constitute about one-ninth of the total population of 683 million, are free in their beliefs, as are all other believers in other religions, and enjoy the same privileges and rights granted to others according to the constitution.

CHATTI REPORTS NEW MEDIATION IN GULF WAR

LD181228 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1110 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Jidda, 18 Apr (SPA) -- Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, has announced that the smaller committee set by the Islamic Good Offices Committee will tomorrow commence a new round of talks to resume its task of achieving a solution to the Iraqi-Iranian dispute through peaceful means.

In a statement to SPA after his meeting today with the president of Guinea, Ahmed Sekou Toure, chairman of the committee, Chatti said that tomorrow morning, Monday, the committee leaves for Baghdad and then for Tehran, under President Sekou Toure's chairmanship, to meet officials of both countries to work toward ending the war between Iraq and Iran.

Chatti expressed his optimism about the success of this new round and hopes that both sides will respond to the committee's proposals. He pointed out in this connection that the committee will not be putting forward new proposals but will hold talks with officials of both countries.

PDRY

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT PROPOSES TRUCE

JN180716 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Reports from Aden say that the National Democratic Front [NDF], a leftist movement opposed to the North Yemen Government, has proposed a truce to the San'a' Government during which the Front will stop all military operations provided government forces return to their barracks and stop arresting individuals and all military preparations. This came in a statement issued by the NDF in Aden.

YSP, BA'TH PARTY RELEASE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

EA172100 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1255 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] A joint communique was issued yesterday by the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party on the official visit by Brother 'Abdullah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party, who is leading a party delegation to Democratic Yemen at the YSP Central Committee's invitation.

The communique outlined the level of developing relations between the two brotherly parties in Democratic Yemen and Syria, their joint stands on Arab and international situations and their solidarity in the face of all the difficulties and conspiracies against the Yemeni and Syrian peoples.

The joint communique explained that during their discussions in Aden, which took place in a brotherly atmosphere governed by confidence and understanding and a general sense of awareness of the delicate circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing, the delegations of the two parties studied the current situation. There was a constructive and fruitful exchange of views on the two parties' activities and their militant circumstances, developments in the two brotherly countries, the firm brotherly relations between them and ways of strengthening and developing them.

The joint communique stressed the YSP's total solidarity with Syria in confronting internal and external conspiracies devised against it. The Socialist Arab Ba'th Party delegation also expressed its deep appreciation of the strengthening of the status of the YSP, its leading role in various aspects of life in Democratic Yemen and the rallying of the masses of workers and toilers around it. It also stressed Syria's stand alongside Democratic Yemen in its confrontation of imperialist and reactionary conspiracies.

The brotherly Syrian delegation praised our country's correct foreign policy, its effective participation against the imperialist onslaught in the Arab region and its solidarity at the international level. It hailed the steadfastness of the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon and its role in confronting repeated Zionist acts of aggression against southern Lebanon.

The YSP and the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party condemned the imperialist military presence in the Arabian Gulf, Red Sea and Mediterranean Sea, the setting-up of military bases and the provision of military facilities to U.S. imperialism in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, Oman [words indistinct] and other Arab countries. They also condemned the ongoing attempts to set up regional security and military alliances in the region linked to U.S. imperialism which support the agent Egyptian-Zionist-U.S. alliance in the Arab region. The two sides also condemned the multinational force in Sinai which reflects the effective participation of Western European states in the Camp David accords and a new occupation of these Arab Egyptian territories.

They condemned the colonialist policy of the imperialist states on the extensive plunder of the resources of the Arab nation, particularly its oil resources, as well as the role of the reactionary regimes which employ this resource and their financial potential to further the aggressive conspiratorial designs of U.S. imperialism against the Arab national liberation movement and the liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The two sides pointed out the importance of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, its important role in confronting the Camp David conspiracies and the resolute stands it has adopted to strengthen confrontation of imperialism and Zionism in the Arab region. They stressed the need to develop it and increase its efficacy in order to reinforce the liberation struggle and promote it to the level of [words indistinct].

The two sides condemned Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, the continuation of flagrant interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and the explosion of the security situation there through the Israeli support of agents. They emphasized their support for the struggle of the Arab people in Lebanon and its nationalist and progressive forces in defense of its Arabism, unity, independence, sovereignty and democratic development.

They stressed that the Iran-Iraq war runs counter to the true interests of the peoples of the two countries and serves only Zionist-imperialist designs.

They expressed their appreciation of the struggle of the Arab people in Egypt under the leadership of their nationalist and progressive forces.

They also expressed their great gratification at the qualitative development in the relations of friendship and cooperation between Democratic Yemen, Syria and the USSR, which serves the best interests of the Arab nation and its just causes. They stressed that principled strategic relations with the socialist camp, led by the USSR, are the main condition for a resolute confrontation of the Zionist-imperialist onslaught and triumph over it.

They underlined their support for and solidarity with the just struggle of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America and their liberation movements against imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction and for national independence and social progress.

The delegation of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party left Aden yesterday evening, Friday. It was seen off by a number of brother members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee.

YSP ORGAN ON U.S. 'CONSPIRATORIAL MOVES'

LD171626 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The YSP Central Committee organ, ATH-THAWRI, stressed in today's issue that Democratic Yemen is fully aware that what has been published about attempts by U.S. imperialist circles and their allies to harm its principled stands and firm course are no more than minor pointers to the real extent of secret efforts against it. The paper made it clear that Democratic Yemen, which has always emphasized its great concern over security and stability in the region, is watching all such conspiratorial moves carefully and with revolutionary vigilance. The masses of our Yemeni people are capable of foiling all U.S. imperialst-reactionary attempts to obstruct the progress of their glorious revolution and hit at the great revolutionary gains achieved by them under the leadership of their experienced and militant political vanguard, the YSP.

NEGOTIATIONS ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL CONTINUE

Ghali on Israeli Visit

NC161903 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali tonight following his return from Israel to review the results of the negotiations Dr Ghali had in Israel.

Dr Ghali told our correspondent he conveyed a message from President Mubark to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and had talks with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir dealing with subjects related to the final stages of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. He said Israel will reply to the president's message in the next few days.

Talks With U.S. Begin

NC170924 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Egyptian-U.S. talks began at the Foreign Ministry at 1000 today. The talks began with a meeting that was attended by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Walter Stoessel, U.S. under secretary of state. At the end of the meeting, members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations joined the talks.

It is worth noting that the talks concentrated on the points of disagreement between Egypt and Israel over the border points in order to resolve them before the completion of the final Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. Attending the talks on the Egyptian side were Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid and Ambassadors 'Ismat Rida, Fawzi al-Ibrashi, Mahmud Fathi and (Sa'd al-Fararbi). Attending the talks on the U.S. side were the members of the U.S. delegation accompanying Stoessel and the U.S. ambassador in Cairo.

Spokesman on Arbitration

NC171224 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) -- Foreign Ministry official spokesman Ambassador Ra'uf Ghunaym has told MENA that during talks held today between the Egyptian side, led by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and the U.S. side, led by Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, the Egyptian delegation emphasized Egypt's firm stand regarding its commitment to its pledges and the Camp David agreements and denied the allegations that Egypt has violated them.

Ghunaym said that during the talks the Egyptian side explained Egypt's view on all subjects the Israeli side raised last week regarding bilateral relations.

He added that the U.S. side emphasized during the talks that the United States, as a full partner, is interested in giving momentum to the peace process and that it is ready to do everything possible to resolve any problems.

Ambassador Ra'uf Ghunaym said the two teams agreed to resume talks this evening and to form two subcommittees to continue reviewing the subjects that emerged from this morning's session. The two subcommittees will meet immediately.

He said the first subcommittee will discuss the dispute on Tabah and the second subcommittee will apply the military annex to the peace treaty between the two countries.

MENA has learned that the subcommittee on Tabah will discuss the method of implementing Article Seven of the peace agreement with regard to the Tabah area. This article stipulates that in the event of a dispute, recourse should be made to negotiations, reconciliation and then arbitration. The first two methods -- negotiations and reconciliation -- have been exhausted. Therefore, the subcommittee will discuss the manner in which the third method -- arbitration -- is to be carried out and what status the disputed area will have during the arbitration.

'Ali on Egypt, Peace

NC171339 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Egyptian-U.S. talks were held this morning.

Our correspondent has learned that at the beginning of the meeting Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained Egypt's views on all issues that were raised between Egypt and Israel in the past week. His excellency stressed Egypt's complete commitment to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and all its provisions. He stressed that Egypt will continue to take measures to implement the treaty with all honesty and precision.

The U.S. side expressed its readiness to play a role as a full partner in boosting the peace process. Both sides agreed to continue the talks this afternoon at a meeting between Dr Butrus Ghali and the U.S. under secretary of state to continue reviewing the issues submitted at the general meeting.

Agreement has been reached to form two Egyptian-U.S. subcommittees: The first will be charged with reviewing the steps of normalizing relations between Egypt and Israel; and the second will be charged with the measures of ensuring the borders between the two countries.

Two Sinai Subcommittees Meet

NC171642 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) -- The two subcommittees stemming from Egyptian-U.S. discussions held a meeting this afternoon to discuss all subjects pending between Egypt and Israel.

The first committee discussed various points and subjects related to what has been done in the area of normalization of various bilateral relations since the treaty between them was ratified.

At the meeting, the Egyptian side put forward a full report on the agreements which have been signed between Egypt and Israel, on the 13 committees formed for this purpose and on the consequent normalization of relations in the various fields, including tourism, communications, aviation and so on.

The second subcommittee discussed the measures aimed at safeguarding the boundary between the two countries and the subjects relative to application of the military annex of the peace treaty.

The Egyptian side submitted to the committee documents substantiating Egypt's abidance by the spirit of the agreement in a positive spirit and in an efficacious manner. These are the same documents which Egypt gave to Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to corroborate its adherence to the provisions of the peace agreement. Furthermore, Egypt submitted documents stating that it is untrue that arms have been smuggled across the Egyptian border, or that any change has taken place in the number of Egyptian forces in Zones A, B and C. Egypt also detailed the measures it is taking to prevent the smuggling of arms.

Meetings Continue

NC171930 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The Egyptian-U.S. military committee met this evening to discuss matters connected with ensuring security along the Egyptian-Israeli border. Furthermore, another committee met to discuss steps that have been taken toward normalizing Egyptian-Israeli relations in accordance with the peace treaty.

Maj Gen Muhsin Hamdi, head of the Egyptian delegation in the Egyptian-Israeli Joint Military Committee, has stated that he told the U.S. side at the meetings that Egypt adheres to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and its military annex and that Egypt has not violated the treaty in any way.

He affirmed that the reports of the U.S. mission confirm the Egyptian viewpoint on this matter.

Ghali Briefs Mubarak on Talks

NC172005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1935 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said he has submitted a detailed report to President Husni Mubarak on the outcome of his discussions tonight with U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, who is currently visiting Cairo.

In a statement to MENA, Ghali said that at the working session he held tonight with the U.S. envoy, a positive and effective discussion took place concerning the outstanding questions related to the final withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April, including the Tabah border question, which will be settled in accordance with Article Seven of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Ghali said: We discussed with the U.S. official how to apply the second and third course in Article Seven concerning conciliation and arbitration of the Tabah problem and the rules to be followed for conciliation or arbitration.

Ghali added that they also discussed ideas related to the procedures for conciliation or arbitration and the various ways and samples related to conciliation and arbitration.

He said the U.S. side will present these ideas to the Israelis tomorrow. Ghali stressed that in the course of the talks between the Egyptian and U.S. sides today there appeared an agreement on the principle of trying to arrive at a solution.

'Ali Suggests Israel Visit

NC181200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 18 Apr (MENA) -- Following his meeting with President Husni Mubarak this morning, U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel said the discussions he held with the president were very good and that it was an opportunity to meet with the president to review issues related to the continuation of the discussions he had previously held in Israel.

[Egyptian Foreign Minister] Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We welcome the U.S. efforts and the dispatch of the U.S. under secretary of state for a shuttle mission between Egypt and Israel in an attempt to resolve the outstanding issues between Egypt and Israel before 25 April. He added: We welcome the resumption of border discussions. I am prepared to go to Israel to complete the final stage of the discussions and the measures related to the final status of the borders.

'Ali on Israeli, USSR Ties

NC172342 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2252 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has reaffirmed that Egypt derives its political weight in the area and in the world from being an Arab, Islamic, African and nonaligned state. He said Arab Egypt constitutes one of the fundamental elements of Egypt's strength and political weight, pointing out that from this angle Egypt's Arab role and its Arab affiliation represent one of the priorities in Egypt's foreign policy.

In an interview given to ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine to be published on Monday, 'Ali said the main problem in Egypt at present is the economic problem. Egypt has spent $40 billion in its wars with Israel, and Arab assistance to Egypt since 1973 has amounted to $11 billion, while U.S. and Western aid to Egypt since January 1978 has amounted to about $19 billion. 'Ali welcomed Arab capital that supports defensive capabilities in Egypt and for all Arabs.

On the Egyptian concept in relation to the core of the Middle East problem -- the Palestine question -- 'Ali affirmed that this concept is based on achieving Palestinian autonomy during the next phase. He noted that this concept is based on several points, namely, that Arab Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank, achieving complete legislative and executive powers for the Palestinians and placing the Israeli settlements in the occupied territory under Palestinian administration. 'Ali said there is no new concept in the Israeli stance regarding Palestinian autonomy.

On the need for equilibrium in the area, 'Ali stressed that it is in Egypt's interest in this part of the world that we should safeguard the equilibrium or try to rectify it if there is a deficiency.

He said he believes the equilibrium in the area is in favor of the Soviet Union and that its rectification requires joint efforts with other powers, namely, the United States, and that this power needs a friend, not an agent, noting that Egypt represents this friend now.

Regarding the Egyptian naval and air base in Ra's Banas and what the Americans will do with the facilities granted to them, 'Ali said the Egyptian offer still stands provided that the Americans undertake the expansion of the base at their expense for its use in cooperation with us, since it is an Egyptian base, if the need in the area arises.

He said the Americans have not done much so far with the base, noting that the expansion of the base would cost 400 million pounds and that Congress has allocated only $186 million.

'Ali recalled that at one time the Soviet Union had more than mere military facilities in Egypt. He said, however, that Egypt welcomes balanced relations with the Soviet Union and the United States.

For the first time, 'Ali revealed that the late President Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem on 19 November 1977 was put before the Egyptian National Security Council 2 weeks before it took place and before the late president suggested it in his speech before the People's Assembly.

On Israeli fears toward Egypt after the assassination of the late President Anwar as-Sadat, 'Ali said President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States and Europe has dissipated these fears and answered all questions raised at the time.

'Ali Interviewed

JN161904 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Interview with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, granted to Monte Carlo radio correspondent Huda Tawfiq, carried on the "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Will Israel withdraw [from the Sinai]? Will Israel withdraw in the specified time? Will Israel leave unsolvable border problems after its withdrawal? It is obvious that Israel is creating crises in the last moments. Will Israel withdraw on time?

[Answer] I firmly believe that Israel will withdraw as scheduled. Israeli Prime Minister Begin and all officials with whom I have met have confirmed this. Israel has also confirmed to the United States, which is a full partner in the treaty and the peace process. There is no doubt that the differences over the military appendix raised by some Israeli sources in the last few days can be dealt with in the context of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Until 25 April, the U.S. mission in Sinai will investigate any violation by the two sides. Therefore, any difference over interpreting the military appendix of the treaty is to be resolved by the U.S. Sinai mission. This will actually be undertaken during the coming stage or during the coming days. After that the multinational force will undertake this task in the same spirit and in accordance with the treaty. Accordingly, this is not considered a point of difference.

There is another point related to the smuggling of weapons into the Sinai. As we know, every state cares for its security. Therefore, Egypt bans the smuggling of any weapon into or out of Egypt. This is also in accordance with the treaty, which Egypt respects in letter and in spirit.

[Question] Egypt adheres to the restoration of its complete international borders. This might be its interpretation of Resolution 242. Does [words indistinct] problem fall within this context?

[Answer] I do not believe at all that such a technical difference can be applied to anything else. It is a technical difference on the demarcation of certain points. This technical difference can be completely resolved without any delay in the withdrawal by agreeing to the implementation of Article Seven of the treaty, which calls for arbitration or reconciliation. We have actually reached agreement with the Israeli side on several principles. These principles are the Israeli forces' withdrawal to the line Egypt believes is really its border and Egypt's advance to the border, which Israel considers its real border. What remains after this is a disputable area of no more than 1 sq km, where the multinational force is present. Article Seven will be applied to this area. There are some other details on which we can reach agreement with the Israeli side. On this basis Egypt makes no concessions about anything and all the problems can be resolved by negotiations.

[Question] Concerning the disputed areas, what will be the scenario after 25 April when Israel withdraws? What will be the status of these disputed areas?

[Answer] The status of the disputed area is one of the points on which negotiations are currently being held. We have not yet reached a decision. However, following my recent contacts with Minister Sharon, it will be possible to discuss this point again.

[Question] Do you expect an agreement concerning the differences on the border issues to be reached before 25 April?

[Answer] I think this particular issue will require discussions that might extend past 25 April. However, I do not think it would take a long time to resolve.

[Question] Therefore, this dispute does not affect the completion of the final withdrawal?

[Answer] Of course it does not affect the completion of the final withdrawal.

[Question] Do you think the United States has a role to play in this issue?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, the United States is a partner in the march of peace and in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. There is a U.S. commitment toward implementing the treaty for both sides. If a dispute develops between the two states, the United States will undoubtedly have a role to play.

[Question] Stemming from this point, what are the issues Egypt wants to raise with the U.S. under secretary of state?

[Answer] The issue of the border dispute might be raised only as a matter of opinion. There are no other differences between Egypt and Israel concerning arrangements for the final withdrawal. As we are aware, there are more than 13 committees and many bilateral agreements that were directly reached between Egypt and Israel. The implementation of these agreements is being carried out within the spirit and context of the treaty.

[Question] Has Israel raised other problems in addition to the issue of the smuggling of arms and the issue of the armed forces violations in Sinai?

[Answer] No other issues were raised with Minister Sharon.

[Question] This might be my last question. Israel has raised difficulties and created clouds over its relations with Egypt concerning the withdrawal. Is this an Israeli attempt to divert attention from the real tragedy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip?

[Answer] I do not think so, because as we know the issue of the West Bank has been going on for years. Therefore, there is absolutely no connection between the two issues.

[Question] Will Egypt raise any questions with Israel concerning the situation in the West Bank and Gaza?

[Answer] The issue of autonomy and the building of trust between the people in the West Bank and Gaza on the one hand and Israel on the other has always been raised between Egypt and Israel. It is not a new question, and (?we can) raise it at any time.

[Question] If Israel does not withdraw, what position will Egypt adopt?

[Answer] Let us not suppose a thing which, in my evaluation, is a very remote possibility.

'Ali on Camp David

NC181950 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] New York, 18 Apr (MENA) -- Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Egypt is adhering to the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. He noted that he finds no reason for further assurances in this regard.

In an interview with the U.S. television network, ABC, 'Ali pointed out in this regard that the restoration of Arab solidarity with Egypt will not be a reason for Egypt to abandon its commitments.

He stressed that Egypt respects its signature on the agreements it concludes, and it has concluded a peace treaty with Israel followed by three agreements which were all ratified by the Egyptian People's Assembly. It has also concluded nine memorandums of understanding on all aspects of relations with Israel, all of which are being meticulously carried out. This is considered an emphatic confirmation of Egypt's intentions toward peace and Israel.

Discussing the Arab situation, 'Ali pointed out that the polarization in the area has harmed Arab interests and increased divisions in the Arab world.

On another matter, the deputy prime minister praised relations with the United States, affirming that they are constantly developing and are based on mutual interests. He said that Egypt will work to bolster these relations.

Israel Visit Announced

NC182040 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Apr (MENA) -- MENA has learned that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will go to Israel tomorrow morning on a brief visit of a few hours. He will then return to Cairo.

'Ali told MENA the visit is aimed at holding discussions on how to solve the border problem near Tabah and to agree on a solution before the Israeli withdrawal from the remaining part of the Sinai on 25 April.

During his visit he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

In his statement, 'Ali pointed out that during his visit to Israel it is expected that a tripartite Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli meeting will be held to discuss solutions to the border problem. The meeting will be attended on the Egyptian side by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the U.S. side by Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, and on the Israeli side by Ari'el Sharon and Yitzhaq Shamir.

'Ali will be accompanied on the private plane by a limited delegation of his aides as well as U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason.

Ghali Makes Statement

NC190937 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali -- accompanied by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, head of the Egyptian side of the Joint Military Committee Maj Gen Muhsin Hamdi, and a number of Foreign Ministry ofdicials -- this morning departed Cairo.

In a departure statement to a radio correspondent, Dr Butrus Ghali said: During this visit, which will last several hours, the Egyptian delegation will hold talks with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Furthermore, it is expected that a tripartite Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli meeting will be convened to discuss some secondary issues relative to the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai.

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin had earlier addressed an oral invitation to Kamal Hasan 'Ali to visit Israel.

AL-AHRAM REJECTS SIGNING ADDITIONAL PLEDGES

NC182330 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Apr (MENA) -- In tomorrow's edition, AL-AHRAM affirms that Cairo has explained, through its exchange of letters with Israel during the talks held with Walter Stoessel, under secretary of state and U.S. President Reagan's envoy to the Middle East, that there are no inconsistencies in the application of the articles of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement.

The paper adds that in connection with the implementation of the military supplement to the agreement it has become apparent during the aerial survey by satellites and also from the report by the Sinai team studying the implementation of the agreement that there are no inconsistencies on Egypt's side and that inconsistencies that do occur are being eliminated as they occur.

The paper adds that during his meeting with Stoessel today, Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah explained the methods Egypt is following regarding its forces that are deployed in the Sinai in accordance with the military supplements of the agreement, which all affirm Egypt's keenness on its choice of peace and on safeguarding it.

The paper adds that during his meeting with Stoessel today, President Husni Mubarak affirmed the following facts:

1. Egypt's adherence to the Camp David agreements as the only document for achieving peace as well as its adherence to the peace agreement with Israel.

2. Egypt welcomes U.S. efforts to mend the differences and thanks it for its role in achieving peace, which will be complete with the withdrawal.

3. Egypt is endeavoring to end all differences concerning pending questions, foremost among which is the subject of Tabah. It was he president who had asked from the very beginning that the differences be ended as soon as possible so a good spirit will prevail in Egyptian-Israeli relations and so peace will be achieved on a strong and firm basis.

The paper adds that President Husni Mubarak explained that Egypt considers the Camp David documents and the peace treaty as the only documents containing the basis for achieving a solution, and that the commitment of Egypt and Israel to them along with their implementation in a good spirit will strengthen these agreements.

Egypt believes there is no justification for entering into discussion on pledges and new commitments, particularly since it has not been officially notified of a request for such commitments, although the tune that has prevailed on the Israeli side has hinted about this, and these inclinations have been conveyed to Egypt without any request for any new commitment.

AL-AHRAM DISCUSSES MUBARAK'S LETTER TO BEGIN

NC162330 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM reports in tomorrow's issue that the urgent letter President Husni Mubarak sent to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin today discussed the issue of Tabah, over which differences still exist.

The paper adds that the letter dealt with the legal aspects and Egypt's points of view regarding the subject. President Mubarak affirmed in his letter the necessity of working at building trust between the two countries. He also called for self-restraint during the few remaining days for before the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and the implementation of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, both in text and spirit.

Meanwhile, AL-AHRAM says the U.S. observation mission in the Sinai is slated to start surveillance mission in Zones A and B, where Israel has raised some reservations on the increasing Egyptian military presence. This falls within the framework of the tasks assigned to it after Egypt recovers the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line.

AL-AHRAM adds that the mission will present reports to Egypt, Israel, and the United States.

AL-JUMHURIYAH STRESSES COMPLETE SINAI WITHDRAWAL

NC170755 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 17 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-JUMHURIYAH comments on the return of the rest of Sinai to Egypt, saying that in less than 8 days the rest of Egyptian territory in the Sinai will be returned to Egyptian sovereignty now that all the parties, including Israel, have affirmed that there are no problems facing the withdrawal process. Since the problem of the border demarcation in the Tabah area remains, Egypt's basic position is governed by several declared concepts. The paper says the most important and binding position is that Egypt will not relinquish one grain of sand under any circumstances because Israel's withdrawal will then be conditional and the whole peace process would face a grave impasse from which it would be difficult to emerge.

As is known to all, Israel's complete and final withdrawal is limited only by Israel's historic fears, which they call Israel's security. In conclusion, the paper says that apart from this there should be no conditions by either party on the other except that of equal peace, which President Mubarak emphasized as peace with pride and honor. From this premise, the return of the land is inevitable, and any other problems will be covered by the provisions of the [peace] treaty.

CAIRO PRESS REJECTS CONDITIONS, PRAISES PEACE

NC172354 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) -- In a commentary to be published tomorrow, the newspaper AL-AHRAM deals with the intensive activity by Egypt, the United States and Israel to solve the remaining peripheral problems related to the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the remaining part of the Sinai as scheduled and to crown this event with all glory and greatness it deserves.

The paper says the continuation of consultations and meetings among the three sides indicates that settling the outstanding questions through negotiations and by resorting to the peaceful option as an alternative to war is not as superficial a thing as some think and is not an inclination toward relaxation or giving up any rights or other allegations made by those who believe that clamoring with war trumpets can restore their rights.

The paper says that it is now obvious to all that the battles of peace might be stronger than those of war and that challenges can be confronted successfully if a good and strong will prevails.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Egyptian peace policy is firmly based on the provisions of the peace agreements and that there is no scope for dictating conditions to any side.

The paper adds that the peace agreement which Egypt has signed provides no conditions or restrictions on Egypt regarding its relations with its fraternal Arab states or within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement or its relations with other states.

INTERIOR MINISTER WARNS AGAINST DISRUPTIVE ACTS

NC162247 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA) -- Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha has announced that security organs are watching all suspect movements by illegal organizations that try to disrupt the atmosphere of stability and security in Egypt.

The interior minister affirmed at a meeting with Alexandria police officers that the Interior Ministry is working according to planned tactics to face any disruptive actions by opponents.

The minister praised the efforts of police organs to counter their destructive and terrorist plans. He also called for decisiveness in facing outlaws and those who try to undermine legality and the constitution.

MUBARAK LAUDS NATIONAL UNITY IN EASTER MESSAGE

NC180756 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Apr 82

["Text" of President Mubarak's Easter message -- no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] It gives me pleasure to convey sincerest congratulations to the Christian brothers on the glorious resurrection day, which coincides with the feast of the spring -- the feast of life rejuvenated with bright hope for our people who will celebrate in a few days the restoration of the remaining part of the Sinai to the motherland, noble Egypt, which was mentioned with glory in the Bible, Gospels and the Koran.

Our people, who have carried the message of civilization since the dawn of history, have waged, both Muslims and Christians, all the battles of liberation and construction as one united, strong and solid front. National unity was the solid rock on which the imperialist plots foundered. Church towers and mosque minarets are embraced on our pure soil as an immortal symbol of love, fraternity and tolerance. Guided by the holy lights which radiate from our spiritual heritage and through our national unity, our people will proceed with God's help with long strides along the path of social, economic and cultural development so as every citizen may feel assured about his present and future.

God is great and peace on Earth.

CLASHES RESUME IN SOUTHERN BEIRUT SUBURB 16 APR

NC162224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The security situation exploded in the southern suburb at 2300. Fierce clashes are taking place in which various kinds of heavy weapons are being used. The latest reports say that the artillery and rocket shelling includes (Bi'r al-'Abd), (As-Sufayr), (Ar-Ruways) and Burj al-Barajnah.

Clashes Continue

NC170912 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The intensity of the battles that resumed last night between the Amal [movement] the communists and the Palestinians in the southern suburb has eased but clashes continue to take place every now and then in the area of the Ghandur factory; bursts of gunfire are heard in the areas of (As-Sufayr), (Bi'r al-'Abd) and (Ar-Ruways).

The situation suffered a setback before midnight last night when shells began falling on the residential areas in Ash-Shiyah as well as on the camps of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila. Meanwhile, violent battles took place in the areas of Al-Chandur and As'ad al-As;ad Street in which artillery, rockets and light, and medium-caliber arms were used.

The inhabitants spent the night in shelters and secure areas during the indiscriminate shelling of the residential areas. When the intensity of the clashes eased, the inhabitants were observed to be moving out of the areas of tension lest the fighting resume. Thus far, no precise information has been received on the number of casualties, but security sources have said about 20 persons have been killed and 50 wounded.

A state of extreme caution reigns in the areas of (Burj al-Murr) and (Wadi Abu Jamil) in the wake of the clashes which took place between the Amal movement and Kurdish persons in which Muhammad Mihhu, the son of Jamil Mihhu, secretary general of the Kurdish party was killed.

According to reports from the south, villages in the districts of Az-Zahrani and An-Nabatiyah have been in a state of fear lest battles between the Amal movement and the communists and Palestinians should resume. A similar situation has prevailed in the area of Ba'labakk. It is worth mentioning that the deadline set by the Amal movement for members of foreign parties to leave the area [not further identified] expires today.

COORDINATION COMMITTEE CALLS FOR CEASE-FIRE

NC171924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The Higher Coordination Committee has decided there should be an immediate cease-fire in areas of tension. The committee has also called for an immediate investigation into the incidents. The investigation will be held under its supervision. In addition, the committee has decided to meet again in Damascus to draw up a joint coordination plan among all its parties.

The committee met in the home of 'Asim Qansu at noon today. The meeting was attended by Qansu, Yasir 'Arafat, Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, Muhsin Ibrahim and Col Muhammad Ghanim. The meeting lasted from 1215 to 1800. Minister of Tourism Marwan Hamadah attended part of the meeting in the evening. Hamadah briefed the conferees on the steps the state intends to take concerning the current developments.

After the almost-6-hour meeting, Qansu released the following statement: The Higher Coordination Committee, which met on Saturday, 17 April 1982, expresses its deep regret over the painful incidents that have taken place in several areas of southern Lebanon, the implications of which extended to Beirut and its southern suburbs. Proceeding from the sincere desire to consolidate coordination between the Nationalist Movement and the Amal movement and to preserve its alliance with the Palestinian revolution, the conferees noted the dimensions of the tragedies experienced by citizens of the south as a result of the serious clashes that affected peaceful villages and innocent citizens and placed new burdens on the south in its steadfastness in the face of Israel. Therefore, the Coordination Committee believes that it is its duty to turn to our people in the south and tell them it will exert its utmost efforts to live up to its responsibility in safeguarding their security and dignity in the south, which has always been the vanguard of national action and which has embraced the Palestinian revolution, giving it the dearest thing it possesses. The south deserves serious attention by all concerned to remedy every irregularity and to provide the requisites for internal steadfastness in facing the Zionist enemy. It is not permissible to allow the south, which is the pride of Lebanon and all the Arabs, to be used as an arena for fighting which will only serve the ambitions and plans of Israel.

The committee decided the following:

1. To adopt the necessary field security to guarantee the full observance of the cease-fire in the areas of tension, to end the state of alert, to withdraw all armed men and to remove forthwith all armed manifestations resulting from the recent incidents.

2. To carry out an immediate investigation, under the supervision of the Coordination Committee, in to the recent incidents in order to define their implications and direct causes and to specify the parties involved and those responsible for the incidents within a maximum period of 1 week, starting today.

3. To draft a joint national-Lebanese plan of action to include all fields in order to confront the Zionist enemy and tackle all aspects of the situation in the south. This is in addition to defining the bases for consolidating the present coordination and for securing the continuity of its effectiveness, and to outlining the level of the demands of the national action throughout the Lebanese arena, provided that an agreement on all military questions in the south should be made with the Palestinian revolution.

4. To hold another meeting of the Higher Coordination Committee in Damascus as soon as possible to arrive at decisive results concerning the joint course.

PALESTINIANS, NATIONALISTS REACH CEASE-FIRE

NC171358 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] A report from Sidon indicates that an agreement has been reached between the Palestinians, the Amal movement, and the National Movement for a cease-fire, the withdrawal of armed men, and allowing those who left their homes to return to them. It has also been decided that the communists and Palestinians will withdraw from 'Adlun, Lubyah and Al-Insariyah.

PRESIDENT SARKIS ADDRESSES CABINET MEETING

NC171540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] President Sarkis opened today's Cabinet session by saying: What has been taking place for the past several days in the south, Beirut and the southern suburb of the capital is but another aspect of the ordeal and hardships through which Lebanon and the Lebanese people are suffering. The Lebanese citizen, who is still suffering more killing, destruction and homelessness, now lacks the minimum requirements guaranteeing his life and subsistence. Regardless of how hard it is to talk about what is taking place, the circumstances we are experiencing are harder.

There are numerous reasons for the explosions that are taking place. These are internal and external. The general climate in the area is facilitating this and creating atmospheres of mutual caution and fear by all parties. As an authority, we have tried on more than one level and at all forums, particularly at international conferences and Arab summit conferences, to insist on the need for efforts to tackle the explosive situation in the south and the impact of this situation on the sons of the south, all the Lebanese areas and the area's states. It is truly regrettable that all these efforts have not achieved the desired result. Israel is the only beneficiary from all that has taken place and is taking place.

Today, we repeat that the situation prevailing in the south cannot continue because of the dangers it is fraught with -- dangers the size of which are known to all. Moreover, we repeat that the capabilities of the state to tackle the situation in the south are very limited in view of the forced absence of the legitimate authority and its various establishments, particularly the army, from the south.

His Excellency President Sarkis added: All of us must be aware of the gravity of the phase through which Lebanon, particularly the south, is passing. Moreover, every one of us must shoulder his national responsibility to rescue the homeland.

MINISTER AL-WAZZAN BEGINS SECURITY INITIATIVE

NC180707 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] The government has embarked on a comprehensive move to tackle the security situation in a radical way and also to tackle the causes and social and material results of the recent incidents. A working group headed by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and including ministers Michel Iddih, 'Ali al-Khalil, Joseph Abu Khatir, 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Labban and Marwan Hamadah has been formed for this purpose. This move was approved at yesterday's Cabinet meeting which was held under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis and in the presence of the prime minister and the ministers with the exception of the defense minister, who is currently in the United States.

The president of the republic considered the incidents which took place in Beirut and the south as another aspect of the tragedy of Lebanon and its people. He explained there are internal and external reasons behind the explosion, saying: The situation in the south cannot continue and all must shoulder their national responsibilities.

The prime minister, in his capacity as the chairman of the ministerial group, began his move by meeting the minister members of the group to review the anticipated plan of action and define its general framework in all fields, particularly the social fields, survey the damage resulting from the clashes and give immediate aid to those who suffered damages.

The prime minister then met last night with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the presnece of Hani al-Hasan. The discussions centered on the situation in the south in the light of Israeli threats and on the situation in the capital and its suburbs following the consolidation of the cease-fire in the areas which were the scene of the recent disturbances.

'Arafat briefed the prime minister on the results of the meetings of the Higher Coordination Committee which met at the house of engineer 'Asim Qansuh, the secretary general of the Ba'th Party's organization. He also briefed the prime minister on the committee's resolutions which include practical measures to consolidate the cease-fire in the capital, its suburbs and in the south, remove the armed manifestations, withdraw the armed men, pinpoint those responsible for the incidents which led to the clashes and prepare a plan of action in the south to confront the Israeli enemy.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan and 'Arafat made no statements following the 2-hour meeting. However, it has been declared that the meeting was part of the contacts which the government has initiated to tackle the situation in the south and in Beirut and its southern suburb and to help the restoration of calm and stability, particularly at this stage when the Israeli threat is increasing.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed satisfaction with the results achieved by the Higher Coordination Committee at its meeting yesterday and hoped that the resolutions adopted will be quickly implemented.

U.S. MILITARY ATTACHE WOUNDED BY SNIPER IN BEIRUT

NC180602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beirut has stated that the assistant military attache at the embassy, Frederick Charlhoff, was slightly wounded in the shoulder when crossing from the eastern part to the western part of the capital across the port area at 1600 yesterday. The spokesman explained that the wound was caused by a sniper's bullet, but that it was slight and superficial.

DEPUTY PREMIER HAMDUN SCORES IRAQI REGIME

JN171318 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] In reply to a quesiton by the SANA correspondent on the Iraqi regime and the future of relations with this regime, Walid Hamdun, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and deputy prime minister [for service affairs], said: For years, the Iraqi regime has been conspiring against Syria, smuggling weapons, explosives and saboteurs into it to carry out sabotage and murder against Syrian citizens and the establishments of the Syrian people. The Iraqi regime has carried out unprecedented criminal acts and practiced base methods against the Syrian people that are unprecedented in Arab history. Recent treacherous acts carried out by this regime included the agent role it played in Hamah by arming the Muslim Brotherhood gang, killing citizens, terrorizing the inhabitants and destroying institutions. This regime also sent before and after this huge quantities of weapons and explosives, as well as booby-trapped cars to be blown up in Damascus and in other Syrian streets, something unprecedented in relations among countries. This regime, within the framework of the economic pressures on Syria, also suspended the Iraqi oil flow through Syria from 1976 until 1979.

What made this issue more provocative is that the suspension of oil took place while negotiations were underway between the two countries. The Syrian finance minister was in Baghdad for negotiations with Iraqi officials, but they did not inform him that they had suspended the oil flow. He learned about the issue only after he returned to Syria. They failed to inform us about it at the time and did not explain their action, despite the fact that the border between the two countries was open and diplomatic relations existed.

Now that this regime has killed scores of our people -- women, children and old persons -- after it has committed many crimes against our economy, Syria will not establish any kind of relations from now on with this regime, which has betrayed the Arab nation, its masses and causes.

The ruling regime in Iraq, which has no concern other than shedding blood in Syria and Iraq and anywhere else in the Arab homeland whenever it is able to do so, must be toppled. Its downfall is a precondition for a relaxation in the situation in the region. Its downfall will enable the Arab nation to rest unharmed by the crimes of this despot.

Syria will support our masses in Iraq in their struggle to topple this regime until this has been achieved and until fraternal Iraq has triumphed and the bloodbath being carried out by the despot in Iraq has been stopped.

DAMASCUS TV JUSTIFIES CLOSING BORDER WITH IRAQ

JN162114 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Saddam Husayn and his black propaganda machine have launched a campaign of lies and allegations against Syria following the unavoidable decision to close down our border with fraternal Iraq. The contents, slogans and aims of this campaign are not new. What draws attention, however, is the hue and cry Saddam Husayn and his propaganda machine have raised about Iraq's interest and the pan-Arab interest that has been harmed, according to them, due to the closure of the Syrian border.

Saddam Husayn has betrayed our national and pan-Arab causes and has gone so far along this path that what is now required and has become a top priority is to overthrow him in order that Iraq may restore its health and shoulder its natural responsibility in the first Arab battle, the battle for Palestine. On several occasions Syria has relied on Arab good offices to clarify the atmosphere between the two fraternal states. Syria has repeatedly responded to the requirements of pan-Arab interests and has refused to open a side battle in the interest of the enemies. Years ago, Syria discovered a serious plot by the Baghdad regime against its national unity and heroic steadfastness. Syria has always been tolerant toward its brothers and not its enemies. Syria would like to point out that the closure of the border with Iraq, while harming to some extent the fraternal country, affects the Syrian economy. However, the security of Syrian citizens and their national unity is the motive, rather than the necessity, that forced the closure of the border. Furthermore, the closure of the border at this difficult stage in the history of beloved Iraq, which is under the shadow of a tyrannical and fascist authority represented by Saddam Husayn, is an expression of real pan-Arab interests because this closure will ward off the threats of death against our people in Syria and will save Iraqi brothers from being involved in Saddam's mean plots. It will prevent Saddam the killer from creating vengefulness in the hearts of our people in the two countries due to the terror and murder wrought by his sinful hands. Syria's position, as manifested in the statement on the closure of the border, is very clear. Syria considers this decision to be a temporary and unavoidable measure that was taken after Syria became certain that the Iraqi regime would not refrain from following its conspiratorial path against Syria. We would like to point out that the real threat to fraternal Iraq is the mad war of aggression against Iran that was launched by this regime. Concerning this war, we would like to point out the following facts:

Saddam Husayn is raising a hue and cry about stopping the flow of oil to Baniyas and Tripoli following the closure of the border. He ignores the destruction of Iraqi oil following the insane war. Figures and statements by his own officials are convincing evidence.

DAMASCUS RADIO CALLS FOR TOPPLING IRAQI REGIME

JN181416 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Syria's solid stand against the plotting of America, Israel and their agents is a guarantee for the entire pan-Arab existence and an impregnable dam in the face of the dangers of the anti-Arab plotting. Therefore, by declaring that the continuation of Syria's steadfastness and rallying around Syria are the central and basic task of Arab struggle at this stage, the Arab masses emphasize their adherence to Syria's principles and aims.

Those who stand by Syria stand by Palestine, liberation and the restoration of rights. Those who stand with Syria stand with progress and with the establishment of the objective bases to build a unified socialist Arab society. Those who stand with Syria are against America's schemes to control the region and against all forms of imperialist and colonialist presence in this region. In contrast, those who antagonize Syria and plot against its steadfastness with the aim of weakening it are the enemies of the Arab nation and this nation's unity and freedom. They are also against Palestine and the struggle of its people and revolution. They are eventually with the Zionist occupation and the American domination and schemes. This is a criterion for stands under the present confrontation between the Arab masses and their steadfast forces, headed by Syria on the one hand and U.S. imperialism, Israel and their agents on the other. This criterion has induced the Arab masses to voice their decisive judgment against the treason of the Baghdad regime. They have demanded that this regime be taken to task for the crimes it has committed and is committing against the pan-Arab cause and the Arab nation's steadfastness.

Saddam Husayn's regime was not satisfied with shirking confrontation, becoming involved in the swamp of treason and plotting and pulling Iraq out of the basic arena of struggle against the Zionist enemy and its supporters. It also acted as a tool of sabotage and crimes in the hands of America and Israel, implementing their scheme against the Arab nation and its steadfastness with the aim of subjugating it.

As part of the economic pressures against Syria, the agent regime in Baghdad cut off oil and suspended its flow through Syrian territory from 1976 to 1979. During the past years, the butcher Saddam Husayn was behind all massacres and sabotage acts the Muslim Brotherhood gangs carried out against our people. Traitor Saddam has turned Iraq into a center and starting point for this criminal gang, with which he met in the alleys of the American CIA and received with it orders to swoop on Syria and its pan-Arab role. However, our people's vigilance and the Arab masses' enlightenment and commitment have foiled the new plot America entrusted to Saddam to implement in line with As-Sadat's treason and the Camp David plot.

Toppling Saddam's regime has become a national demand by our heroic Iraqi people as well as a pan-Arab necessity for the Arab nation's safety, steadfastness and victory. The Arab citizen who has suffered from Saddam's crimes will no longer allow the continuation of the criminal and conspiratorial line being adopted by this butcher in the service of America and Israel.

When Syria declares that henceforth it will not establish any sort of relations with Saddam's regime, which has betrayed the Arab nation and its masses and causes, and when Syria stresses that it stands by the side of our masses in Iraq to topple this regime, it embodies the will of the Arab masses throughout the Arab homeland. These masses are looking forward to the day when our beloved Iraq will get rid of the nightmare of crimes and return to its Arab position as a force fighting the nation's enemies and faithfully working to build this nation's present and future. This day is not too far away. All indications show that the end of the Baghdad tyrant is inevitable.

AL-KASM RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM USSR'S TIKHONOV

JN152007 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm has received a number of cables of good wishes on the 36th anniversary of Syrian national day -- Evacuation Day. The prime minister has received the following cable of good wishes from Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

On the occasion of Syria's national day, the 36th anniversary of the evacuation of foreign forces from Syrian territory, I extend to you my heartfelt congratulations on behalf of the USSR Government and wish the friendly Syrian people further progress and prosperity in their struggle against Israeli aggressors and imperialist and reactionary plots in order to consolidate Syria's national independence and social progress. We in the Soviet Union are certain that relations between our two countries, which are based on the firm base of the friendship and cooperation treaty, will continue to be strengthened in the interest of the Syrian and Soviet peoples and in the interest of peace in the Middle East and the world.

HAFIZ AL-ASAD RECEIVES ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI

JN181934 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at 1645 today. The talks dealt with the general Arab situation.

BEGIN AIDE OPTIMISTIC ON RESOLVING SINAI DISPUTE

TA161835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Report by political correspondent Alan Ben'ami -- recorded]

[Text] Prime Minister Begin's spokesman, Uri Porat, says the prime minister is very satisfied with the letter he received this morning from Egypt's President Mubarak. Mr Begin thinks there are good reasons for believing everything will work out well between Egypt and Israel. The prime minister had talks separately this morning with Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and with U.S. deputy secretary of state, Walter Stoessel. Also taking part were Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Both American and Egyptian officials have now flown to Cairo, with the U.S. envoy taking with him a number of Israeli proposals.

According to the prime minister's spokesman, the three countries are now searching for a way to prevent any misunderstandings in the future, particularly regarding what he called certain in the peace agreement. However, he would not relate to reports that Israel is seeking a document of specific written pledges in which Israel would reaffirm its intention to withdraw from Sinai at the end of the month as scheduled; both countries would promise to maintain relations unchanged after the withdrawal; and Egypt will commit itself not to carry out hostile propaganda against Israel or have connections with the PLO.

Porat said only that the Camp David accords were the best documents Israel had ever signed, but with a new era ahead, he said, it was natural to get some things clearly sorted out now. As for President Mubarak's letter, this was a very good and friendly one, he said. It talked in general terms about the future, the peace process and relations between Israel and Egypt.

In related areas, a senior Egyptian military officer believed to be from the intelligence branch began discussions in Israel today on ways of stopping the smuggling of arms across the border from Sinai into the Gaza Strip. And the director of the American-manned Sinai field mission had a detailed briefing from Israeli military men about the locations in Sinai where Egypt has carried out violations of the military annex of the peace treaty. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon says that the Egyptians promised him yesterday when he was in Cairo that they would begin correcting these violations immediately, and the Sinai field mission will send observers out into the area tomorrow to check the situation on the ground.

BEGIN PROPOSES 5-POINT CAMP DAVID REAFFIRMATION

TA161253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Report from the prime minister's office by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- live]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon briefed Walter Stoessel on his talks yesterday with Egyptian leaders, chief among them being President Mubarak. He described the matters which the Egyptians have already promised to correct and those still in dispute. But it seems that at the center of the discussions now among Israel, the United States and Egypt is the Israeli proposal to formulate a document to be signed by the parties to the Camp David accords in which the parties will express their commitment to the Camp David accords.

It appears that there are yet to be many arguments on this. The prime minister has formulated a very detailed document including five main points: that normalization and diplomatic relations between the two countries be maintained in the future as well; that hostile propaganda be forbidden; that ties with the PLO be banned; that Israel pledges in this document that the withdrawal will be completed. This document was submitted to the U.S. ambassador to Israel and was relayed to Egypt.

From what we have been able to learn until now, the Americans do not support a document as all-inclusive as the one being proposed by Israel. Rather, they support a short declaration in which the three parties will reaffirm their commitment to the Camp David accords and to the entire peace process which these accords outlined.

We do not have the Egyptian reaction to this document, but it can be said with certainty that the Egyptians can raise an argument no less valid than that of Israel: and that is, if you introduce into this document, which you wish us to sign, then let's undertake to guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as provided in the Camp David accords. Therefore, it seems in the final analysis the U.S. position will be accepted, if indeed such a document is signed, which would be comprehensive and short; and it is possible to say already that several drafts of this document were drawn up last night. And this is the center of discussion at this time between Israel, Egypt and the United States.

Further Details

TA161520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel is about to arrive in Cairo. In his talks in Jerusalem, the political aspects of relations with Egypt in the future were discussed. The prime minister described Israel's fears and proposed that a document should be signed prior to the completion of the withdrawal to ensure that initiatives for the solution of the Palestinian problem are not raised in the future, contradicting the solution envisaged by the Camp David accords. Our political correspondent has learned that in question are two proposals: a declaration of principles to be signed by the parties or a letter from the U.S. President to Israel and Egypt whose receipt would be confirmed by the two countries. Our correspondent notes that there is no intention to ratify the Camp David accords but just to add another document.

The meeting between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali was devoted to the dispute over the demarcation of the border in the vicinity of Tabha, near Elat. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the differences of opinion were not settled and that Egypt is now demanding that the construction of the hotel in that area be stopped. Egypt also demands that the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee scheduled to handle the dispute over the demarcation of the border should wind up its work within 3 to 4 months. Israel suggests not setting a time limit to the work of the committee and that life in that area should proceed as usual also after the completion of the withdrawal. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasal 'Ali is scheduled to arrive in Israel at the beginning of next week. It seems that discussions on this dispute will continue in talks with him.

Policymakers Split

TA180903 Jerusalem POST in English 18 Apr 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Benny Morris and David Landau]

[Excerpt] While Israel is still seeking reassurances from Egypt and the U.S. concerning the future of the peace process after April 26, officials in Cairo and Jerusalem yesterday sounded an optimistic note about the easing of tensions before the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

"I am confident the Israeli withdrawal will take place on time," Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told newsmen, following his meeting yesterday with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel in Cairo. Stoessel added: "I continue... to be confident that the existing problems will be resolved satisfactorily."

In Jerusalem, Israeli officials expressed optimism about resolving the current difficulties following Friday's brief visit here by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. Ghali brought with him a lengthy letter from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, which according to a senior Israeli Government source contained an Egyptian reiteration of commitment to the peace process and an assurance that bilateral Egyptian-Israeli ties would be "strengthened" after April 26.

But Israeli officials continued over the weekend to air the possibility of obtaining, before the withdrawal, a formal tripartite declaration by Egypt, Israel and the U.S. renewing the commitment of all sides to the peace process. Also mentioned were possible exchanges of "letters of intent" between the U.S. and Israel, the U.S. and Egypt, and Egypt and Israel, all underwriting such a commitment. "Israel sees a tripartite declaration as the best possible means of assuring that Egypt does not change its policy after April 26," said a senior government source last night.

The source said that Stoessel in his talks in Jerusalem on Friday expressed "in principle, in a general way" American willingness to sign a "declaration or memorandum" to bolster the peace process in advance of the Israeli pullback from Sinai. But in Cairo, 'Ali said he saw no need for a new document reaffirming Egyptian adherence to the peace treaty. "I see no justification for a new peace pact between Egypt and Israel because the peace treaty, which the two sides have implemented with honesty, provides the necessary legal framework for bilateral relations," 'Ali told the Muslim religious weekly, AN-NUR.

Well-placed sources indicated last night that there is not complete unanimity within Israeli policy-making circles regarding whether to seek new bilateral or trilateral accords at this time to bolster the peace treaty. The sources recalled Premier Menahem Begin's sharp rejection of a proposal put forward by former Premier Yitzhaq Rabin, immediately after President Anwar as-Sadat's assassination, that U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Begin and Mubarak should meet and sign an accord "re-endorsing" Camp David. Begin -- and many others inside and outside the government -- argued that any such document would almost inevitably weaken the parties' commitments to Camp David itself. "The argument is still valid today," the well-placed sources said last night. Israel's policy-makers were therefore "still studying the various options."

STOESSEL RETURNS FROM CAIRO, COMMENTS ON TALKS

TA181535 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1525 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 18 Apr -- U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel returned to Israel this afternoon for another round of talks. At Ben-Gurion Airport he said he was coming after concluding 2 days of good talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. "In these talks we surveyed all the problems which have not been resolved yet," the under secretary of state said. He added that he was particularly looking forward to his meeting this evening with Prime Minister Menahem Begin in order to assess where the parties stand now and what progress has already been made. He emphasized again that the United States participates in these talks as a full partner in the peace process and the implementation of the Camp David accords.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, who received Mr Stoessel at the airport, said Israel has a great deal of appreciation for the efforts Mr Stoessel is investing. Yehuda Ben-Me'ir added that when he meets with Prime Minister Begin this evening, "Mr Begin will have very important things to tell him." At the airport Mr Stoessel and his wife were also received by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis and his wife and they left directly for Jerusalem.

Meets Begin

TA190536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Excerpt] U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel who arrived in Israel from Cairo yesterday reported to the prime minister that the Cairo government leaders refused to receive or scrutinize and discuss the draft document that Israel proposes for signing before the completion of the withdrawal. The purpose of the document is to strengthen the trust between the two countries and to bind the parties to the Camp David process in the future.

Our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, has learned that the Egyptians said that the publication in Israel of the Israeli demand for such a document embarrassed them and led them to adopt a tough stance in the course of recent talks. The Israeli participants in the talks have reacted with anger to this Egyptian argument, which had been made in the past, when the Egyptian president refused to visit Jerusalem claiming that publication of such views in Israel had embarrassed him.

The assessment prevailing among political circles in Jerusalem is that Egypt is reluctant to tie its hands with new formulations about the future for fear this will harm its intention to return to the Arab world. Our correspondent has also reported that the disagreements on the border demarcation have not been fully resolved.

MUBARAK PROMISES SHARON 'RENEWED COOPERATION'

TA181518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] In the Cabinet meeting today the defense minister disclosed that the issue that worried Israel more than everything else with regard to the Egyptian stance was the decision by senior Egyptian echelons to supply the PLO with information on Israel and on Israel's preparations on the Lebanese front. Minister Ari'el Sharon said the Egyptian president had promised him renewed cooperation in preventing the smuggling of arms from the Sinai to the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent has learned that President Mubarak has expressed himself sharply about the terrorist organizations saying he will give instructions that the hands of the terrorists in Al-'Arish be severed and that these hands be sent to Israel.

Further Details

TA162042 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] In the course of this newsreel our correspondent on defense affairs, Ron Ben-Yishay, learned from authoritative sources the details of the peace treaty violations which bothered Israel and why Israel is now demanding a document to validate the old commitments.

[Ben-Yishay -- live] From Israel's point of view, the most serious issue was the operational cooperation initiated by Egypt with the PLO. Egyptian officials met PLO representatives last month and offered them general information about what is happening in Israel. To prove their sincere intentions the Egyptians handed concrete and updated information to the PLO about Israel's intentions on the northern border. In addition, the Egyptians offered medical assistance, if necessary, to the PLO. Minister Sharon presented these facts to President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ali in Cairo yesterday and added a demand: Egypt must stop at once the operational cooperation with the PLO and immediately set out to cooperate with Israel to prevent the transfer of weapons and explosive material from Lebanon to the Gaza Strip via Egypt. In As-Sadat's time, too, this kind of cargo used to reach the Fatah in the Gaza Strip by sea, at Al-'Arish.

However, when Prime Minister Begin appealed to President as-Sadat on this matter, security measures in the Gaza Strip were tightened and the flow of weapons diminished.

A turn for the worse occurred after As-Sadat's murder. The Egyptians turned a blind eye to shipments of weapons and explosives which not only reached Fatah, but also members of Georges Habash's Popular Front and members of a relatively small organization called the Popular Struggle Front. This information was submitted this morning to the head of Egyptian intelligence. His urgent trip to Tel Aviv this morning constitutes clear evidence that the Egyptians have in fact accepted Israel's claims.

The Egyptians also violated the peace treaty in the thinned-out Zone B in the Sinai. This very same map which you can now see on the television screen was today presented to Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. The map includes all the violations. Only four border guard batallions -- but not even one military unit -- are supposed to be stationed in Zone B. Instead we find there today three military stations for electronic communications and surveillance: one in Ra's Muhammad, another one in 'Ayn an-Nakhlah and the third in Al-'Arish. Two airfields -- one in (Bi'r Gafgafah) or formerly Refidim, and the second in Al-'Arish -- are operated by the army. Also, guard battalions, patrol units and Egyptian Army engineering companies are mainly stationed in the area of Al-'Arish but in other areas as well.

A division center command is located at the Refidim Airfield, surrounded by excavated and entrenched positions -- as can be seen here on the map -- and many minefields. These violations are not new; Israeli representatives have pointed them out to the Egyptians several times in the past.

The Egyptian ministers promised to amend the violations but in a gradual fashion so as not to upset the Egyptian Army and offend its prestige. Israel understood and agreed to go along with this request. However, as the time of the withdrawal drew nearer and the violations were not corrected the Israeli Government decided to dig in its heels. The area will be handed over to the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] on 25 April and if the violations are not corrected by then they will become engrained [yitmasdu] and will be grounds for possible additional violations.

In the talk with Defense Minister Sharon yesterday, President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ali agreed to Israel's demands and promised that the violations in the Sinai would be amended by tomorrow, Saturday 17 April. The Americans will again tour the field on Tuesday to verify that Israel's demands have been fulfilled. After the withdrawal, the Americans will be in charge of preventing further Egyptian violations.

CABINET 'OPTIMISTIC' OVER SOLVING DISPUTE

TA172023 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Our political correspondent reports the Cabinet is optimistic about solving the problems pending between Israel and Egypt by the date of the final withdrawal from the Sinai, due in 8 days, and that there is no longer any doubt that the evacuation will be carried out on time. Tomorrow, the Cabinet will be briefed on contacts held at the end of the week with U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel and with senior Egyptian administration officials. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports on the agenda of tomorrow's Cabinet session.

[Ram -- live] Government circles this evening emphasized that all the Israeli claims about Egyptian violations [of the peace treaty] raised by the defense minister in his talks in Cairo last Thursday had been checked at the instructions of President Mubarak.

A senior Egyptian intelligence officer arrived in Israel yesterday to check first-hand the claims about the smuggling of explosive materiel from Al-'Arish to the Gaza Strip. As noted, the rest of Israel's claims were also checked and some of the violations have been rectified.

The prime minister believes that the military appendix to the peace treaty includes security coefficients [meqadme bitahon] which ensure Israel will not be surprised. He also believes that contrary to the UN observers in the past, the duty of the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] -- which is mostly American -- is not to record but rather to prevent violations. Begin regards the Camp David accords as the best agreement ever signed by Israel. This is a peace plan recognized by the greatest country in the world and with the largest and most important Arab country. The prime minister is aware of the problems Egypt has run into upon signing the peace treaty, as well as of the serious problems faced by Israel in the wake of the signing of the same treaty. Mr Begin believes that the border problem at Tabah is technical rather than political. As for Israel's proposal to sign a document necessitating the continuation of the peace process: Egypt has so far refused to sign such a document.

It is believed in Jerusalem that a letter from President Reagan addressed to both Israel and Egypt reiterating their commitment to the Camp David accords may satisfy the wishes of the two parties.

EGYPT'S MUBARAK SENDS MESSAGE TO BEGIN

Termed 'Very Friendly'

TA161422 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali is about to brief the Egyptian president about his meeting with the Israeli prime minister. Minister Ghali conveyed a long message from President Mubarak to Mr Begin. The prime minister's adviser on communications affairs noted the message had been formulated in very friendly terms. The Egyptian president reiterated his country's commitment to peace and to strengthening bilateral relations after the completion of the withdrawal.

Mubarak Said Annoyed

TA180524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Today the Cabinet will hear reports on the contacts held in the last few days with Egypt on resolving the disputes. The prime minister will most likely report to the ministers on the content of the letter he received 3 days ago from the president of Egypt. Our correspondent has learned that this message expresses President Mubarak's annoyance with hints made by some ministers to the effect that Israel would not complete the withdrawal from the Sinai. He noted that these declarations are incomprehensible to Egypt, which sincerely believes that if indeed there were violations of the peace agreements, these can be rectified.

CABINET DISCUSSES EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS 18 APR

TA181144 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1115 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Report by political affairs correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on the 18 April Cabinet session -- live from Jerusalem]

[Excerpts] The cabinet session is over, and the first announcement is that the Cabinet will hold an additional meeting this Wednesday afternoon. This will be after further clarifications by both the Egyptians and the U.S. under secretary of state are received on everything related to Israeli-Egyptian relations. Today the Cabinet heard reports by the prime minister and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon on the contacts held in the last few days with Egyptian leaders.

The prime minister emphasized that the Egyptians are making a real, sincere effort to correct the violations -- the complaints Israel has voiced. He quoted from the letter sent to him by President Mubarak late last week regarding Egypt's commitment to the peace process and the promise that after the Sinai withdrawal is completed many Egyptians will come to Israel.

On the disputed issue -- the border demarcation on 15 points -- the ministers heard that no progress had been made. The prime minister said that if no agreement [haskama] is reached through a committee and if the conclusion is unacceptable to both parties, then Israel will pull back to those points where it believes the border should run, and deliberations with the Egyptians will continue later.

Meanwhile, the ministers were told the Egyptians have already announced that no agreement [haskama] has been reached on the 15 contentious points and that they will not allow Israelis to come and travel in southern Sinai.

For the moment, here at the prime minister's office, although the Cabinet session is over, consultations between ministers are continuing and the commander of the Southern Command, Maj Gen Hayim Eretz, has arrived. He is to confer with the defense minister, one of the issues they will discuss probably being the events in Yamit.

[Announcer Aharon Barne'a] Shim'on, is it known when Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will arrive? He was scheduled to arrive today and his visit was postponed.

[Schiffer] 'Ali's visit was not postponed. As early as late last week it became clear that he would come here on Monday, after U.S. Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel concludes his consultations in Cairo. The U.S. officials will come here today and consultations will be held this evening at the prime minister's residence with him. It seems most likely that, as far as we know at this moment, the Egyptian deputy prime minister will come for talks with the prime minister on the border dispute.

[Question] Has the prime minister, to the best of your knowledge, sent a message of reply to President Mubarak, answering the letter brought on Friday by Dr Butrus Ghali?

[Answer] The prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, told us last night the prime minister has not yet replied to President Mubarak. He read the letter and told the guest who had brought it, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, that the letter is very friendly and good and that he may respond to it later on this week.

[Question] Thank you very much, Shim'on Schiffer.

BEGIN SENDS NOTE TO REAGAN OVER UN PROPOSAL

TA180529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Israel has called on the United States to oppose the draft resolution Jordan will submit tomorrow at the UN Security Council to condemn Israel for the bloody incident on the Temple Mount. The Israeli request is included in a message from the prime minister to the U.S. President submitted last night by Ambassador Moshe Arens to the State Department. Mr Begin warned against the results of U.S. support for such a resolution, which in his opinion will express a libel with hostility and incitement against the Jewish people. Our correspondent notes that the letter was sent after it became apparent that the United States had no intention of vetoing the draft resolution. Yesterday the ambassadors of the United States and Jordan to the United Nations conferred in a bid to find a phrasing the United States could support.

EGYPT'S 'ALI 'CONFIDENT' ON RESOLVING DISPUTES

TA190915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said he is confident that all disputes between Israel and Egypt will be resolved today. In any event, he emphasized, all disputed points will be resolved by 25 April. Full nornalization between the two peoples will begin 2 days later. The Egyptian minister said this at Ben-Gurion Airport. Our Arab affairs correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, reports the Egyptian foreign minister arrived in Israel with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and a team of Foreign Ministry senior advisers. The Israeli ambassador to Cairo, Moshe Sason, also arrived in Israel. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said at the airport that the Egyptian delegation's visit stresses the importance of discussions to be held in Jerusalem and the urgent need to resolve disagreements. Shamir emphasized that Israel is prepared to discuss all disputes. He hopes the results of the discussions will contribute to strengthening peace.

Meets Begin

TA191245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 19 Apr 82

["Midday Newsreel" report by Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barn'ea outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] The meeting between Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has been going on for more than 75 minutes. The Egyptian foreign minister, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs and a senior Foreign Ministry team of advisers are representing the Egyptian side while Prime Minister Begin, Defense Minister Sharon and Israel's Ambassador to Cario Moshe Sason represent the Israeli side.

At Ben-Gurion Airport, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said he was happy to be here today, to enjoy the celebration of spring in Israel. This, in his opinion, is real normalization. However, he immediately alluded to the Israeli demand that another ratification paper on all facets of Israeli-Egyptian relations be signed, saying that both parties have signed and agreed on about 40 agreements viewed as only the beginning of full and real normalization which will start on 26 April. As for the problems still pending, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: I am sure that we will overcome everything before 25 April by creating the mechanism that will render possible a solution to all disputes in the future. At the end of his remarks he announced he hopes that all problems on the agenda will be concluded today.

The Egyptian foreign minister and his party will be here until 1600 and then will return to Egypt to report on their talks to President Mubarak. It appears from brief talks we have been able to hold with some of the Egyptian entourage members that the Egyptians claim that there are two major contentions -- theoretically separate contentions but practically interconnected ones -- are raised in Israel.

The first contention or issue is the future of relations between Israel and Egypt after 26 April. It is repeatedly emphasized to us on this issue that Egypt adheres to all agreements and treaties and will continue to honor its signature. This is a matter of principle and not a political maneuver, they emphasize. Peace is a strategic objective as Husni Mubarak said on the day he was elected president. Peace is the product of Egypt -- one of the senior Egyptian officials told us -- this is the fruit of Egypt's determination to tread the path of mines to its very end. Israel, on the other hand, should shake off all fears and worries because the new chapter in bilateral relations will start only after 26 April. The present disagreements must not go beyond technicalities and become political problems.

As for the second issue -- the resumption of relations between Egypt and Arab countries -- the Egyptians say they do not understand the connection between the date, 26 April, and these relations. It is not Egypt which severed those relations and if Arab countries see fit to resume relations Egypt will welcome it provided it is not at the expense of relations with Israel. As for relations with the PLO -- as may be recalled the Israeli Government wants Egypt to announce the severance of ties and contacts with PLO members. This has met with refusal so far. Senior Egyptian delegation sources told us that the contacts with the Palestinians -- as they call them; they do not mention the word PLO -- have never been discontinued and after 26 April not only will they continue but the Egyptian president also wants to play the role of mediator between Israel and other Arab countries, including the PLO. The meeting with the prime minister is still continuing and will probably end shortly before 1600.

EGYPTIAN ARMY PULLS BACK UNITS IN SINAI

TA172003 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] In the last 24 hours, the Egyptian Army has pulled out several units and installations from the buffer zone east of the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line in the Sinai. The units were removed within a comprehensive operation to amend the peace treaty violations. This has been learned by our correspondent on defense affairs, Ron Ben-Yishay.

Tomorrow a U-2 reconnaissance aircraft of the U.S. Air Force will photograph the Sinai. Its photographs -- which will be submitted to both parties -- will make it possible to determine whether the violations of which Israel had complained have been rectified. As may be recalled, the Egyptian Government promised the Israeli Government to rectify the violations by Saturday, namely, by today.

ENTIRE SINAI DECLARED CLOSED MILITARY ZONE

TA180519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] At midnight last night the entire Sinai was closed to civilians and the entire area stretching from Tabah to Ofira is now a closed military zone.

BEGIN: YAMIT EVACUATION MUST BE COMPLETED

TA181624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Prime Minister Begin says all the work involved in evacuating the Yamit District must be completed in preparation for its handing over to Egypt despite the fact that contacts with Cairo concerning violations of the peace agreement have yet to be concluded. The Cabinet will convene an additional session on Wednesday at which it will be possible to decide, according to Mr Begin, what will happen next Sunday, if indeed something is to happen. On Wednesday also the deputy prime minister of Egypt is to come to Israel to discuss, among other things, the border dispute. The Egyptians have already informed the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem that if no agreement is reached on the matter of the border in the area of Elat there will be no tourism to southern Sinai and normalization will not take place there.

From the briefing given by the foreign minister at the Cabinet meeting it appears that Israel would content itself with a letter to be sent by the U.S. President to Jerusalem and Cairo and in which would be included a commitment to the carrying out of the Camp David accords in the future too. Egypt and Israel would confirm receipt of the letter.

TALME YOSEF EVACUATION COMPLETED; 'AZMONA BEGINS

TA191038 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] The evacuation of Talme Yosef settlers has been completed. All families have been moved out of the settlement except one person who threatens to commit suicide. Our correspondent reports that the IDF loaded the families' equipment on trucks and evacuated them from the region. The evacuation of the 'Azmona settlement is starting now.

The only family remaining in the settlement of Ugda and the four families remaining in the settlement of Sadot have been evacuated. In Talme Yosef the soldiers got the women off the roofs with the help of cages. One family, which has received permission to remain in the area until the day after tomorrow, is still in the settlement of Sadot. The cultural center in Sadot is now being torn down.

Many IDF soldiers entered Yamit this morning although the evacuation of the town has not begun. Many journalists staying in the town have been instructed to leave the area. The Association of Foreign Correspondents in Israel appealed to the High Court of Justice this morning asking for an order nisi against the restrictions imposed on the journalists' coverage in Yamit. The court decision is expected today.

MK'S TO URGE RECONSIDERATION OF SINAI WITHDRAWAL

TA172033 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Seven Likud Knesset members will meet with the prime minister on Monday to demand that Israel reconsider completing the Sinai withdrawal as long as the Egyptians do not abide by the spirit of the Camp David accords, as signed by Israel. They are Knesset members Yosef Rom, David Magen, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, Yigal Kohen, Beni Shalita, Mikha'el Kleiner and 'Aqiva Nof. Knesset member Yig'al Kohen-Orgad is currently at our studio in Tel Aviv. Good evening to you.

[Kohen-Orgad] Good evening.

[Announcer] We are not only receiving soothing reports from Cairo but also from Jerusalem that all violations have been rectified and that there are sufficient security coefficients [meqadme bitahon], both prior to and after the withdrawal from the Sinai. Will you nevertheless demand from the prime minister on Monday that the withdrawal be reconsidered?

[Answer] I suggest -- following the prime minister's definition -- that we should not look at technical matters, but at substantive points. It is not by accident that Egypt turned a blind eye or cooperated with the massive smuggling of weapons by the PLO into the Gaza Strip. It was not a coincidence because the Egyptian peace plan -- the 11-point plan published recently -- emphatically reflects Egypt's position that the next stage is the establishment of a Palestinian state and the return to the 1967 borders. This is a totally different interpretation than that of Israel of the Camp David accords, which referred to the autonomy as an interim period.

[Question] I understand that the prime minister is satisfied with the explanations and promises he has received from Egypt. Do you not trust the prime minister and the defense minister on this issue?

[Answer] I reiterate: In the last few days the discussions revolved around the technical questions of violations of the military appendix. The violations were rectified in just 2 days, and we know that changes that can be made in one direction in 2 days may also be made in the other direction within 2 days.

The question is: What is the reason for the steps taken by Egypt when it violated the buffer zone in the Sinai? What is the reason for Egypt's lending a hand to the smuggling of weapons by the PLO into the Gaza Strip in order to carry out military operations, and how does the above tie in with Egypt's concept of extending support and taking the initiative regarding a Palestinian state immediately after 26 April?

[Question] MK Kohen-Orgad, you voted against the Camp David accords and prior to this current grouping of Knesset members you suggested that a referendum should be held about the withdrawal. In fact, is it not your intention to carry this through to the end -- namely, to totally cancel the withdrawal?

[Answer] The Israeli people, through the Knesset, expressed its wide support for the Camp David accords along with an explicit Israeli interpretation of these accords, an interpretation which Egypt absolutely rejects. Egypt acts in exactly the opposite direction of the Israeli interpretation and in contradiction with the written words of the Camp David accords. The question is whether against this background it is necessary to conduct a national reassessment or not. In my opinion, the minimum the government is expected to do is to present its assessment of the situation to the public about what is to be expected after 26 April. This subject is too important to just make do with technical amendments of military violations. The overall issue should be examined and in light of it the Knesset and the nation -- by means of a referendum -- must reexamine the matter.

[Announcer] MK Kohen-Orgad, thank you very much.

YOSEF HARIF DISCUSSES EGYPTIAN TREATY VIOLATIONS

TA161254 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Apr 82 p 13

[Yosef Harif commentary: "The Egyptian Chief of Staff did not Respond to 'Raful's' Letter of Complaints About Egyptian Violations in the Sinai"]

[Excerpts] It may be assumed that Washington will examine Begin's message to Reagan backwards and forwards, inside out, in an attempt to obtain a final answer to the question of whether Israel will ultimately withdraw from all of the Sinai on 26 April.

Practically speaking, there is no contradiction in terms between what Reagan says and what Israel ultimately does. Israel has not gone back on its commitment to evacuate all of the Sinai. There is only one question: whether this will take place on 26 April or only after Israel is satisfied and all the Egyptian violations are corrected. Thus it seems as though special attention should be paid to the prime minister's remark at last Sunday's Cabinet session when Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon actually demanded that Israel consider not evacuating the Sinai as long as the disputes between it and Egypt have not been settled, the border demarcation issue included. Begin did not want a decision to be made at that session and preferred to say that after the defense minister returns from his talks in Cairo the Cabinet will discuss the situation. It therefore looks as though in theory at least Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai is still negotiable.

Therefore it is easy to understand why Egypt on the one hand and the United States on the other are tense and nervous in anticipation of Israel's ultimate decision, in view of the defense minister's report on his talks in Cairo yesterday, 10 days before 26 April. The tension in the United States reached new peaks this week upon learning that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon believes it would be a very grave mistake by Israel to withdraw while all the Egyptian deviations remain. When such statements emanate from Sharon and when the prime minister says, "we will have to discuss the situation," this only means that the Israelis can still surprise and not withdraw on 26 April. When? A week, two weeks, perhaps a month after that date, but not before the Egyptians have rectified "all the wrongs."

Have the "violations" cropped up out of the blue? Did the United States not know anything about them? No. It took the United States by surprise. In internal deliberations in Jerusalem Minister Sharon told his colleagues that he himself had talked to Ambassador Lewis some time ago, notifying him of the Egyptian violations. This happened parallel to the visit held by the director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, in Cairo on the same subject. "Dave" enumerated before his interlocutors all the violations, "but they only shrugged their shoulders... they said this was nothing...some of them denied the violations altogether...." And what was Lewis' reaction, Sharon was asked? "He listened and noted down...."

But the Cabinet persisted in behaving patiently even though it heard no substantive reaction by Washington, and although the Egyptians for their part also continued to ignore Israel's appeals. The "epitome of overlooking," as one person expressed himself in the course of consultations in Jerusalem last week, by the Egyptians was marked already 6 weeks ago when Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan sent a letter to his counterpart, the Egyptian chief of staff, listing a long line of violations -- some of them pretty serious -- whereas the Egyptian has not replied to that letter to this very day.

It can only mean that the Egyptians and the Americans were smug, thinking everything was in their hand. While the Egyptians have begun experiencing some "anxiety" in the last few days, the Americans must have completely panicked. The impression is that following the defense minister's talks in Cairo yesterday the Egyptians, too, will try to address themselves more seriously to Israel's appeals on the violations. Or, as Sharon put it prior to his departure for Egypt: "I am not going to Cairo to hear... I am going there to speak." The Egyptians were sure to have heard.

They could hear about all those violations "Raful" had listed, which for some reason they ignored. They could also hear about new violations, such as the operational cooperation -- as the defense minister described it -- between Egypt and the terrorist organizations (in the last few weeks, Minister Sharon told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, the Israeli security forces captured 500 handgrenades slated for transfer from Al-'Arish to the Gaza Strip). They could also "hear" that the Egyptians have not only built up fortifications in Zone "B" but have reinforced armored deployments in areas where they should not do so, in accordance with the military annex of the peace treaty (the Egyptians have so far maintained that they did not set standard armored division units but "only" set up a skeleton....) As far as we know, intensive activity involving strange building work has taken place in the Mitla and Jiddi Passes. But do the Egyptians have to hear from the Israeli defense minister where and when they violated the peace treaty? Do they not know it very well by themselves?

The question why Israel woke up in a start now is irrelevant. It is only natural that the problem becomes more and more poignant as the date for the withdrawal draws nearer and Egypt persists in ignoring Israel's repeated approaches. In consultations held in Jerusalem it was emphasized that in the last month the Egyptians have ceased reacting to Israel's approaches, and this is particularly the case since the physical implementation of the last stage of the withdrawal -- in the Yamit District -- began. Ever since then, the Egyptians must have assumed that the final pullback is actually a fact.

Clearly the prime minister, who -- as he informed Haig -- also regards the Egyptian violations with great apprehension and concern, is also in a serious quandary. As one of the architects of the Camp David accords (about which he said Israel has never signed a better agreement) he would have liked the implementation to be completed unimpeded, but on the other hand one cannot ignore "Abd al-Majid's remarks when he, with all due respect, is not such an independent personality to be able to voice statements like the ones he said contrary to President Mubarak's opinion. This means that at least in the Mubarak era, when Israel faces such "new" surprises each day, things should be more carefully reviewed. And this applies precisely now, 10 days before the withdrawal.

Now it is the Cabinet that is alerting Washington to the Egyptian "violations." But what is this? If the violations are not serious, why drive the whole world and ourselves crazy? And if they really are serious, why not tell the Egyptians outright that 26 April is not a holy date. We Israelis are not going back on our commitment to evacuate all of the Sinai, but unless you Egyptians manage to correct all the violations in the remaining 10 days and the affair of the border demarcation is not settled, no harm will be done if the withdrawal is put off by some days or weeks. Why does the Cabinet think that after the withdrawal, with the "violations" remaining uncorrected, the Egyptians will be more flexible?

"The Camp David accords," which Begin praised so profusely these last few days, actually covers everything that is necessary to maintain a relationship of true peace -- starting with the prevention of a boycott and an undertaking not to engage in hostile propaganda up to avoiding war. But the problem now, in view of the Cabinet's disclosures, is not the words and phrasings but the implementation of the agreement in effect. There is a difference between President Mubarak's abstaining from visiting Jerusalem (claiming he has "domestic affairs" to attend to) even though in a normal state of relations this should not be accepted, and the statements made by his ambassador, 'Abd al-Majid. There is a difference between slowing the normalization process and "operational cooperation" with the terrorist organizations. If these thing are not ironed out now, when will this be done, after the withdrawal, when on each and every matter -- not only Jerusalem -- Mubarak will argue that "he has domestic problems?"

So, to the best of our knowledge, the Egyptians have recently told the Americans that they cannot give up "one centimeter" (on Tabah) because this may bring about the downfall of the Egyptian administration....Is this the style of relations between Egypt and Israel? Each time they do not want to fulfill a commitment or anything deriving from the peace agreement they will immediately contend that this may "bring about the downfall of the administration" and then the Americans will come to Israel and ask it to "take a broad view" and not insist on "minute issues...."

It appears that the United States, too, knows where Egypt is currently heading: Egypt under Mubarak seeks to return to the Arab world. It "sells" the argument to the United States that Egypt will thus be a U.S. prop in the Arab world, but it may well quickly reach a situation whereby its relations with Israel will be founded on "no war," but not necessarily on a full and real peace. It looks as though this Egyptian trend, which is being corroborated in the area and through various expressions, is what prompted the Cabinet to try to clarify things with the United States before the final pullback. This is why Begin summoned Haig last week, asking: What guarantees can the United States provide Israel with to make sure that the status of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel does not change after the withdrawal? What will the United States do if Egypt continues to deviate from the peace treaty? What will Washington's reaction be to an Egyptian attempt to limit the interpretation of the treaty -- Washington being a full partner to the peace agreement?

Not so long ago, Sharon told Haig: "If the Egyptians try to act smart after April 1982 and violate the peace treaty, we will be back in the Sinai in 24 hours." Now Sharon, Shamir and Begin are asked: If the Egyptians are trying to act smart already now and in your opinion violate the peace treaty -- not by simple violating it but by "very seriously" violating it, and which causes the prime minister by his own confession great consternation, why should the Cabinet wait until after 26 April to return to the Sinai in 24 hours. Israel is, after all, already right there....

The drama that began on 9 April when the prime minister's bell alarmed the U.S. ambassador about the "violations" did not end this week. It may not end even on Sunday, during the Cabinet's weekly session in which the defense minister's mission in Cairo will be discussed. So far the prime minister did not contradict the statements made by his defense minister, who "hinted" at what Israel ought to do -- or rather ought not to do -- should Egypt continue to persist in its stubbornness. Begin promised "we will discuss the situation" without hinting at what he would recommend be done. As against those who position is clear -- namely "we should not give in to the Egyptians" -- there are those who fear the "world rising up in arms" if Israel does not withdraw on 26 April.

ALGERIA

COMMUNIQUE ON HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

LD171113 Algiers APS in English 1040 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Algiers, 17 Apr (APS) -- At the end of the official visit of the Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, the following press communique was released.

At the invitation of Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, Politburo member, foreign affairs minister, Mr Frigyes Puja, foreign affairs minister of the Hungarian Popular [as received] Republic, was on an official visit in Algeria from 12 to 15 April 1982.

During his stay, Mr Puja was audienced by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN party secretary general. He successively met Mr Rabah Bitat, People's National Assembly (APN) president and other ministers.

Official talks took place between both delegations led by Messrs Ben Yahia and Puja. Both ministers noted with satisfaction the development of cooperation between the two countries in several fields and convened to strive efforts [as received] for the strengthening of this cooperation, in the frame of the Algerian-Hungarian joint committee, through the exploitation of all the possibilities of both economies.

Mr Frigyes Puja invited Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia to pay an official visit in Hungary. The date will be fixed through diplomatic channel.

UNIVERSITY CENTER CLOSED OVER 'POSSIBLE STRIFE'

NC181818 Paris AFP in English 1758 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Algiers, 18 Apr (AFP) -- The Algerian university centre of Tizi-Ouzou was shut down today for an unspecified period, the university's council announced today.

No official reason for the closure was given.

But students said the centre was closed to prevent possible strife. The move coincides with the second anniversary of clashes between security forces and Berber students. The students had planned a series of cultural activities this week about the Berbers.

(In Paris, the committee for the defence of cultural rights in Algeria said the university was shut down on Thursday and that Algerian troops who were "ready to intervene were concentrated in barracks at the university."

(The committee, which defends the Berbers' rights, said Algerian authorities had decided to prevent the anniversary celebrations.)

REPORT FRENCH STILL HELD IN ALGERIA DISMISSED

NC190757 Paris AFP in English 0733 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Algiers, 19 Apr (AFP) -- The claim in France last week that about 1,000 foreigners, mainly French, who "disappeared" at the time of Algeria's independence from France 20 years ago are currently held in "work camps" in Algeria has been dismissed here.

A government source called the charges, by the French association for the safeguard of vanished families and children, a "ridiculous invention" and "idiocy."

A French diplomatic source said the [word indistinct] was not being taken seriously. There were now only three French nationals being held in Algeria after the release of a dozen others last December at the time of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Algeria, the source said.

LIBYA

YUGOSLAV VICE PRESIDENT IKONIC ARRIVES 17 APRIL

LD172130 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Apr (JANA) -- Branislav Ikonic, vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, and an accompanying delegation, arrived in Tripoli today on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The Yugoslav deputy premier made a statement to a JANA correspondent stressing the deep, friendly relations between the two countries. He said: My visit comes within the framework of developing and consolidating relations between the jamahiriyah and Yugoslavia in all spheres.

Economic Talks Held

LD180904 Tripoli JANA in English 0829 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Apr (JANA) -- The General People's Committee secretary of the economy and light industry, Mr Musa Abu Furaywah, yesterday conferred with the vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, Mr Branislav Ikonic, and his accompanying delegation who arrived in Tripoli earlier yesterday.

Discussions centred on methods of bolstering bilateral relations and the implemented parts of joint economic, social, technical and scientific cooperation agreements signed between both countries.

Departs for Home 18 April

LD182340 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Apr (JANA) -- Yugoslav Vice President Branislav Ikonic left Tripoli this evening at the end of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

HUNGARIAN CONSTRUCTION MINISTER ARRIVES 16 APRIL

LD171450 Tripoli JANA in English 0920 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Apr (JANA) -- The Hungarian construction minister, Kalman Abraham, arrived in Tripoli yesterday noon on a visit to the jamahiriyah.

HUNGARIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS SIGN PROTOCOL

LD161424 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Libyan Arab-Hungarian talks were concluded last night in Tripoli. The final session was attended by Brig Gen Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of staff of the armed forces, and Istvan Olah, Politburo member, first deputy defense minister and Hungarian chief of staff, and their delegations.

A protocol on bilateral cooperation was concluded in Tripoli yesterday. Brig Gen Mustafa al-Kharrubi and Istvan Olah signed the protocol.

Istvan Olah and the accompanying delegation left Tripoli at noon today and were seen off at Tripoli Airport by Brig Gen Mustafa al-Kharrubi.

TALKS HELD WITH HUNGARIAN HOUSING MINISTER

LD180912 Tripoli JANA in English 0835 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Apr (JANA) -- The General People's Committee secretary for housing, Engineer Muhammad al-Manqush, yesterday received the Hungarian construction minister, Dr. Kalman Abraham. Discussions centered on cooperation in construction and the participation of Hungarian companies in the implementation of several projects in the jamahiriyah.

MAURITANIA

MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BRINGS MESSAGE

AB161820 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, member of the Military Council for National Salvation [CMSN], prime minister and minister of national defense, received in audience this morning Alioune Blondin Beye, the Malian minister of foreign affairs, who arrived yesterday evening in Nouakchott. Present at the audience were Mohamed El Moktar Ould Zamel, the minister of mines and energy and interim foreign and cooperation minister, as well as the ambassador of Mali to Nouakchott. At the end of the audience, the Malian minister stated that he came to deliver to the prime minister a message from President Moussa Traore addressed to Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, the cahirman of the CMSN and head of state.

[Begin recording] [Beye] I would first like to thank the prime minister for granting me this audience with so much affability. I came to deliver to him a message from President Moussa Traore addressed to President Khouna Ould Haydala now on official visit abroad. I had the opportunity to hold long discussions with him and had ample time to convey a fraternal message from President Moussa Traore, a message which, as is customary, concerns regular consultations on the historic ties between the two heads of state, bilateral issues and matters concerning the subregion and so on.

[Question] Generally, how is cooperation among the Sahel countries developing?

[Answer] Well, you know that cooperation between Mali and Mauitania has contributed much to it. Remember, just a few (?weeks) ago, the Mauritanian capital hosted a (?historic) summit which will henceforth go down in (?annals) as the summit of the organization of Sahelian countries. You are also aware that this offered another opportunity to the two heads of state to hold bilateral talks during which they examined ways and means to strengthen this cooperation. You also know that not very long ago, I myself was cochairman of the joint Mali-Mauritania commission which met here and reached important decisions for the development of this fruitful cooperation which is dear to our hearts. [end recording]

MOROCCO

HASSAN CONDEMNS ISRAELI ACTIONS ON WEST BANK

PM161109 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 26 Mar 82 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The West Bank: His Majesty Hassan II's Indignation"]

[Text] His Majesty Hassan II has sent the following message to Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and OAU Chairman Daniel Arap Moi:

Following the fraternal Palestinian people's outburst of protest and indignation in their occupied territories against the Zionist authorities' attempt to dissolve their legally elected municipal councils and to forcibly impose on them an Israeli civil administration and powers with the aim of strengthening and consecrating the Zionist occupation;

In view of the fact that this has taken place after the proclmation of the holy city of Jerusalem as Israel's "eternal capital," and after the annexation of the Golan Heights,

In view of the barbaric behavior of the Zionist army toward innocent, unarmed Palestinian citizens -- behavior which has resulted and is still resulting in the murder of young people, the arrest of militants, the destruction of their homes, the confiscation of their land and commercial property and the closure of their schools and universities, we express to you, in our capacity as current chairman of the Arab states' summit, our strongest indignation at these acts of inhuman repression which have no justification and which violate all international customs and charters, which are arousing the condemnation of all living human conscience and which relegate to the past heritage of world civilization and its noble spiritual values.

We ask you to inform the members of your honorable organization of this protest of ours and to make every effort within the scope of your responsibilities to end this premediated and planned aggression by the Zionist forces against the Palestinian people.

Please accept our sincerest greetings.

SUDAN

IRAQI ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR NUMAYRI

JN171112 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Apr (SUNA) -- President Numayri received today a written message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral releations and ways of promoting them.

The message was delivered by Hikmat Ibrahim, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy.

In a statement after his meeting with President Numayri, the Iraqi envoy said that his visit to Sudan is to strengthen Sudanese-Iraqi relations in all spheres in the interests of the Sudanese and Iraqi people and the Arab masses.

Hikmat Ibrahim added that he had sensed President Numayri's response to pan-Arab principles. He said he had also sensed President Numayri's response to the war imposed by Iran on Iraq and had shown an understanding of the motives of this war and the policies which aimed at diverting the attention of Iraq and the Arab nation from their basic objectives

The Iraqi envoy stressed that his visit to Khartoum can be viewed as a basic starting point in the process of joint Arab resurgence and the strengthening of bilateral relations.

Envoy Leaves 17 April

JN171844 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 17 Apr (SUNA) -- Hikmat Ibrahim, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member, left Khartoum today at the end of a short visit during which he gave a message to President Numayri from President Saddam Husayn dealing with the Sudanese-Iraqi relations.

In a departure statement, the Iraqi envoy said that President Numayri's response to the message was really splendid and confirmed the identity of the Sudanese-Iraqi view on various issues. The envoy added that President Numayri agreed with President Saddam Husayn that the Arab nation is experiencing difficulties and is passing through extraordinary circumstances which dictate that all Arabs concert their efforts and unify their ranks.

The Iraqi envoy asserted that the government and people of Iraq appreciate with pride and admiration the stands of Sudan, Jordan, the YAR, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE which support Iraq's confrontation of Iran's aggression. These stands confirm the soundness of their Arab belonging and their sincere faith in the need to assist Iraq which never abstained from performing its pan-Arab duties.

Hikmat Ibrahim condemned the Syrian regime's treasonous support of Iran against Iraq, particularly the closure of the border with Iraq and the suspension of the oil flow across Syrian or Lebanese territories. The regime in Damascus, Ibrahim added, is utilizing all its material and human resources to help Iran. He said the Syrian step is meant to obstruct and encircle Iraq and to harm Arab sovereignty.

SSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE SUPPORTS IRAQ IN WAR

JN181542 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Apr (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri presided over the third meeting of the preliminary SSU Central Committee on Saturday, 17 April 1982. The committee discussed the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war. After listening to President Numayri's strategic assessment of the Iraqi-Iranian war and its effect on the Middle East, the Islamic world and Arab-Islamic solidarity, the committee held a lengthy discussion and came up with the following:

1. The preliminary Central Committee recalls Sudan's principled stand since the eruption of war and President Numayri's sincere call to promptly end the war between the two disputing parties and hold negotiations to solve their border problems.

2. Sudan strongly denounces the war between Iraq and Iran because this war is a fruitless exhaustion of the two fraternal Muslim countries' human, military, financial and economic resources.

3. Therefore, Sudan strongly supports fraternal Iraq's responsible response to Sudan's initiative within the context of the Islamic summit conference held in At-Ta'if in January 1981 and the subsequent efforts of the Islamic Conference Organization to immediately end the war and begin negotiations to solve the two countries' border problems peacefully so that the Arab and Islamic potentials will be devoted and mobilized against the common enemy.

4. The preliminary Central Committee calls on the executive organs and popular organizations to support the stand of the fraternal Iraqi people and government in this regard for the sake of developing relations between Sudan and Iraq within the framework of the principles of Arab-Islamic solidarity.

5. Sudan appeals to Iran to immediately respond to the call of Islam, put an end to the war and accept the Islamic Conference Organization's mediation.

While declaring this principled stand, Sudan denounces any extremist preconditions conflicting with international norms and charters. It sincerely calls for listening to the voice of logic and for taking Islamic interests into consideration.

GHANA

PNDC CHAIRMAN: MERCENARIES RECRUITED FOR COUP

AB162130 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, this afternoon disclosed that some Ghanaians have gone abroad with the aim of recruiting mercenaries to overthrow the government. He did not, however, give any details.

Addressing passing-out police cadet officers in Accra, he explained that the tempo of the revolution has slowed down because the PNDC wants to uproot the various antisocial activities that had eaten deeply into the fabric of the society over the years. He said the government wants to deal with these problems once and for all to enable every Ghanaian to lead a better life. The PNDC chairman said if past leaders had served the country with dedication, there would have been no coup. He advised the new officers to prove their medals by joining the task force.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said constitutions do not mean anything when the very people they are expected to serve are suffering. He said he has moved by the acts of the students and the spirit with which they tackled the task. The national service scheme, he said, will be given a new outlook so as to reflect the needs of the people.

He urged the new officers to play their traditional role of protecting lives and property, but warned that they would be failing the people as well as their profession if they should protect the few exploiters against the exploited majority in the society. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings also warned that the government would not tolerate any agency that seeks to intimediate the people and at the same time claims to serve their interest. He expressed gratitude to Libya for coming to the aid of Ghanaians by donating $20 million of crude oil. He, however, appealed to that country to sell crude oil to Ghana on (?special) terms.

RAWLINGS STATEMENT ON REOPENING UNIVERSITIES

AB160952 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Statement by PNDC Chairman Flight Lieutenant Rawlings on 15 April in Accra -- read "on behalf of the chairman" by PNDC Secretary for Education Ama-Attah Aidoo]

[Text] Good evening, countrymen and women. Since we called upon the students of our institutions of higher learning to constitute task forces to initiate processes of national reconstruction, they have performed beyond our wildest expectation. What they have achieved of their own organization is a tribute to the students themselves and their leadership. It is a tribute to their commitment to this nation. In the face of very adverse circumstances, without any grant from government and with very little logistical support, they have proved that those who really care for this country and its progress are those who, without the expectation of reward, give everything they have for the welfare of the whole society and not for their personal comfort. The achievements of the students go to prove that with genuine national commitment and given a popular democratic atmosphere, our youths are ready to make enormous sacrifices for the development of our nation.

Reports indicate that right from the beginning of the task force exercise, various obstacles were put in the way of some of the students by those people whose responsibility it was to have done the work that had not been done or which had been done very badly but the students valiantly overcame these obstacles and began to show concrete results very early. Their success in overcoming such difficulties must give all of us the confidence that with a high sense of revolutionary patriotism, no obstacles can every impede our determination to liberate our country from underdevelopment.

Apart from the work of cocoa evacuation -- a student activity which has been widely publicized -- students have also been effectively involved in food evacuation and distribution, refuse collection, pothole filling, the building of pit latrines in villages, community health and agricultural projects, policing our borders and the gathering and analyzing data for official decisionmaking. They have been involved in checking smuggling and illegal gold dealing and other important national assignments. Some have also worked hard to start and consolidate people's defense committees as well as giving political education on the current revolutionary exercise. The impact of our students in the last 3 months on this society has been tremendous. They have been able to put their academic knowledge to actual test. There is no doubt that they have come to know their country to an extent that would enable them to understand and appreciate its problems, to accept that their knowledge must be put to the service of the people. This after all is what our education must aim at.

In recognition of their gallant achievement, the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] and the people of Ghana take this opportunity to thank the thousands of students who heroically responded to the call for national duty. The country is especially grateful to those students who volunteered to stay on till the end of the 1981-82 academic year. At this point, we must remember and put in our national memory those students who died in the service of their country during the period that the students were in the field. The greatest tribute to them would be what those of us alive continue to do to remove Ghana from its present classification as one of the world's poorest nations.

These achievements also pose certain questions. Can we really say that the students at our universities and other institutions of higher learning have really shared some of the traditional attitudes of educated people which have created most of our national problems? Are our children now conscious enough of the inadequacies of our educational system and are they now ready to challenge this system and help replace it with a more relevant alternative? Can we say that when the students go back to the campuses and take their examinations and obtain their degrees and other qualifications, they will not immediately expect all the good things of life on a silver platter and abandon their own country? Can we think that, from now on, our university graduates will be really ready for full time employment in rural areas without complaint? Will our newly qualified medical officers honor their professional ethics to accept the right of the people to expect them to join their committed (?oath) to serve this country? [as heard]

The PNDC thinks that the defense of the revolution by students must continue and that it must involve also the large force of every youth outside the description of student and other young people with formal education. Youths must mobilize themselves for task force participation. The revolutionary process is for them. The mass involvement of students, working people, and the mobilization of the mass of unemployed people in this exercise must be seen as two interrelated objectives. First, it serves as a purpose of deepening the people's political consciousness and commitment, as they engage in decisionmaking at the level of productive work. Secondly, it will [words indistinct] of our aim to involve all the people of this country in their efforts to develop the resources of this country toward economic emancipation. It is the expectation of the PNDC that the system of university education will be restructured and the contents reformed to reflect the new revolutionary trend. It will be setting the clock totally back if the students return to the university to be absorbed into the same old campus mentality after their very exciting field experiences. It is necessary that we transform an educational system which has brought negative attitudes in our children and in the society generally.

This is vital if the revolution is to strengthen itself and render the public institutions more accountable to those they are supposed to serve. The battle for the minds must be won in this revolution if we are to make any progress. The continuity and zeal can come about if students once [word indistinct] on campuses to share and exchange their field experiences in order to evolve plans for further task force actions, to pool ideas and proposals for educational and social transformation of our country. To give the task force time to be reorganized in cooperation with local PDC's, groups of other youths and working people should continue with the projects they have started. The PNDC has decided that all three universities and other institutions of higher learning will reopen as from the 23d of this month. During the rest of the month of April, the universities should begin to reorganize their curricula and teaching programs to make particular and direct reference to the national problems whose significance has been highlighted by the task force program. We hope that the university staff will themselves creatively contribute to this process. We expect that all these institutions as well as our several scientific and other research institutions will become direct participants in the revolution and centers of revolutionary education from which the progress of our nation can finally (?find) appropriate solutions. This is a time to create a democratic atmosphere in the classroom where a lecturer can be humble enough to also learn from a student, a condition under which students can feel free to express their views.

This is the time to begin to eliminate from the classroom the crippling submissiveness to which our students have been subjected for too long and to which they themselves have submitted almost automatically. Without democraticizing the classrrom and revamping the old idealist educational system, we cannot produce intellectuals creative enough and fully prepared to take on the revolutionary challenges of our time. The transformation of our social, political and economic structures involves the transformation of our system and method of educating the youths to be citizens worthy of the pride of patriotic children fully equipped to positively contribute to our national development. Lecturers and students must still join hands in this very important national task. It is in this unity, based on a high sense of national committment, that students and lecturers alike can make greater gain in their intellectual pursuit and contribute more meaningfully to our nation's progress. Let us at this point express our awareness of the fear of some of our students who feel that a handful of other students would permit their misuse by antirevolutionary elements. We do not believe that after such a practical experience with our suffering masses, students would not have become even more aware and committed to the need to restore socioeconomic justice to the productive and suffering masses of this land. Our country is in the most critical condition. Ghana needs every one of its sons and daughters. We all must unite in one massive effort to save this country from the disgrace of poverty, ignorance, disease and injustice. Our students have pioneered a cause for national service and sacrifice. This process must continue. And we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all Ghanaians who, by cash or kind, or joining students at the worksites, showed their own appreciation of the students' efforts so readily. Thank you and good night.

ANGOLA

CUBA'S FARAH ARRIVES FOR CONSTRUCTION TALKS

EA161134 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Levi Farah, Cuban minister for overseas construction, arrived in our country yesterday to hold talks with Angolan officials about construction work.

Talks Begin 16 April

AB171224 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Official talks between Angola and Cuba in the field of construction started yesterday in Luanda. The Angolan delegation to the discussions was led by Construction Minister Comrade Manual Mangueria and Cuban Minister for Construction Balmaseda Levi Farah led the Cuban side.

At the opening session of the official talks, the two sides expressed their conviction that the talks will realize the collaboration program to help solve the construction situation in both countries.

According to the program, the Cuban minister today will visit the Province of Benguela.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO ANNOUNCES GENERAL OFFENSIVE 17 APRIL

AB190710 Luanda ANGOP in French 1745 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Luanda, 18 Apr (ANGOP) -- SWAPO of Namibia has in a communique published in Luanda on Saturday announced a general offensive of the PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] against the South African Army that illegally occupies Namibia. As part of this offensive, its soldiers killed six enemy soldiers and wounded many others last Thursday.

According to the SWAPO communique, a PLAN military detachment, an armed wing of the SWAPO, attacked a South African military train and destroyed three enemy combat vehicles. This same detachment also recovered a great quantity of arms and documents, including military maps, the communique added.

On the other hand, the document reveals that on 10 April, important military actions by SWAPO against the South African occupation forces took place in the zone between Grootfontein and Tsumeb, a mining zone in the central north of the territory, and at Rundu, in the northeast.

The intensity of the offensive forced the enemy to recognize that the region of Mangeti, Tsumeb, Grootfontein and Okavango lately has been transformed into an arena of military clashes in Namibia. The racist administration therefore was obliged to evacuate the colonists from the region, once the army of occupation could no longer guarantee their security.

The communique concludes that the present offensive contradicts the enemy's propaganda through which the South African authorities attempt to justify their actions against the People's Republic of Angola and claim that the racist army has destroyed SWAPO's rearguard bases.

KLOPPER NOTES SECURITY FORCE DEATHS IN AMBUSH

LD161225 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The chief of staff, force and deployment of the South-West Africa territory force, Brig Jan Klopper, has announced in Windhoek that two members of the security forces and five members of SWAPO have been killed in skirmishes in the north of South-West Africa/Namibia. He says there are indications that about 100 members of SWAPO are trying to infiltrate the Tsumeb farming area. They are operating in three groups. He said the two security force members were killed in an ambush. Their [word indistinct] troop carrier was hit by what was believed to be an RPG-7 rocket. A large number of antipersonnel and antivehicle mines were found in the area. He said the terrorists seemed to be well equipped and well armed, indicating that the eastern bloc communist countries were beginning to reequip SWAPO after Operation Protea by the South African Defense Force.

[Johannesburg International Service in English at 1500 GMT 16 April reports: "Brig Jan Klopper announced in Windhoek that six members of the security forces and two members of SWAPO were killed in encounters in the north of South-West Africa/Namibia."]

SURFACE, AIR UNITS DEPLOYED AGAINST 'INSURGENTS'

LD161236 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The South-West African territory force headquarters in Windhoek has confirmed that it has deployed surface and air units in operations against SWAPO insurgents in the Mangeti block, north of Tsumeb. Farmers in the immediate vicinity of the Mangeti cut line in the Tsintsabis area have been cautioned to be on the alert and to take measures to ensure their own security. (?It was) said that inhabitants should be especially on the lookout while traveling since terrorists might set up ambushes or plant landmines. There was no evidence at this stage that insurgents had infiltrated south of the Mangeti block.

SECURITY FORCES KILL SIX 'SWAPO TERRORISTS'

LD190528 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Summary] Security forces in South-West Africa/Namibia have killed six SWAPO terrorists who were apparently part of a group which infiltrated the white farming areas in the north-eastern part of the territory last week. Three insurgents were in a small group moving northward in the direction of the Angolan border and the other three were shot dead after crossing the border. On Thursday [15 April] terrorists destroyed an armored troop carrier in that area and killed six members of the security forces.

SWAPO OFFICIAL ON CONTACT GROUP PROPOSALS

EA181532 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Interview with Peter Mushihange, SWAPO foreign relations secretary -- time, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Comrade Peter Mushihange, what are the major developments, right now, despite the reversed proposals of the so-called contact group on the Namibian independence question?

[Answer] Well comrade, I think the proposals of the so-called contact group, at the present moment, I think it has caused a lot of problems. We see these problems because the original plan which has been adopted by the Security Council of the United Nations, it is in fact being changed by the gang of five at the present moment. It is no longer in the regional forums. You can see that the gang of five at the present moment, they have come up with something supporting the one-man, two-vote system, and when you look at the original one, the original one appears to be very straightforward because it was aimed at giving a very simple and fair electoral system to the Namibian people but now it has been rather complicated by the gang of five. The major (?problem) as far as (?you will see) is that we are now completely drawn back and we have come to a standstill. We are no longer making headway as we expected. For example, when I addressed the General Assembly of the UN special emergency session, things appeared to be bright, the whole international community's forecast on the issue of Namibia expected that by this time, phase one, phase two would have been (?short). But as you (?look) at it today, you will see rather a withdrawal, that is, a drawback. We are not reaching any conclusion at all for the simple reason that the Western countries, they are doing their level best to protect the fascists and to protect the illegal occupationist regime in Namibia to continue [words indistinct] which they are now defending, as they are defending the regime to continue, to remain illegally occupying our country.

[Question] Don't you think Comrade Peter (Mushihange) that it is necessary to give the Namibians what (?they generally want), to draw up what the contact group have (?drawn), what they call the three-star [words indistinct].

[Answer] Yes, it is the view of SWAPO that a direct conference should be convened, a Geneva type, which took place last year in January. We have this feeling that if we accept the proposals of the Western countries that we should study one by one [words indistinct]. This is time consuming and, therefore, in our view it is necessary that the South African racist regime be asked to send a delegation to Geneva or elsewhere, not necessarily Geneva, a conference whereby SWAPO and the South Africans sit down and discuss the problem in order to implement the Resolution 435, because as we see it as th present moment, there will be no conclusion if we continue to deal with these complicated items in the agenda, these proposals supported by the gang of five. Therefore, in order to avoid a delay, it is necessary to sit down and tackle the problems at once. This is our feeling.

[Question] How do you view the chaos and misunderstanding within the ranks of the racist South African created Turnhalle Democratic Alliance?

[Answer] Well, it should be expected because the set-up of the so-called Turnhalle setup of the racists, South Africa, and the puppets were brought in (?by) persuasion by the so-called administrator general of Namibia just to drag in those misled and misinformed Africans in Namibia. This, of course, they were not [words indistinct] there is no objective which they are fighting for to achieve. They were brought in simply because they were convinced by the Boers that in order to protect the interests of the Boers in suppressing the Namibian people, they should be there. But, in fact, they are not there as a part of the same class. The whites are there as whites and those blacks who were brought in, they are there without any substance to contribute and therefore the [words indistinct] should be expected because still the whites who are (?in that thing), they are superiors and they can tell the black people to do something which of course they have no fear of losing and, therefore, the [word indistinct] has to be there and that is all.

As SWAPO is continually where there is trouble in Namibia, the people are also starting to feel who is the real liberator of their motherland. It should be one of the cases also that the public who were brought into this thing, they might have realized that they are on the wrong side and, therefore, they [words indistinct]. This is the time for them to see to it that they pull out from this thing and eventually join the movement of the people.

SOUTH AFRICA

SPOKESMAN DENIES SWAPO GENERAL OFFENSIVE CLAIM

LD181616 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] A spokesman for the South African Defense Force has denied claims by the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] that SWAPO is beginning a general offensive against the security forces and that the organization is still a military force to be reckoned with. Speaking in Pretoria, the spokesman said the so-called general offensive was nothing but a desperate and suicidal attempt by SWAPO to try to appease its Soviet masters who were pressing the organization to show some positive results in the bush war. He was commenting on a SWAPO statement issued in Luanda today which said its attack last week in which six members of the security forces were killed was the beginning of a general offensive against the South African Defense Force. SWAPO said its actions in Tsumeb, in Northern South-West Africa/Namibia, showed that it was still a force to be reckoned with despite South African claims that it had destroyed SWAPO's backup bases in southern Angola. The South African spokesman also denied SWAPO claims that defense force vehicles had been destroyed, arms and documents captured or that farms had to be evacuated in the Tsumeb area because of a SWAPO incursion.

MALAN: SECURITY FORCES 'IN TOTAL CONTROL'

LD171010 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The South African minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan, says the terrorist groups operating in the Tsumeb area of northern South-West Africa/Namibia will be pursued and destroyed if they do not leave Angola. Speaking in Cape Town, General Malan said the security forces were in total control of the situation in South-West Africa/Namibia. He said the latest incident in which six members of the security forces were killed in a rocket attack was an example of the military onslaught against South Africa.

UN NAMIBIA APPOINTMENT CALLED 'PROVOCATIVE'

LD171220 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The South African Government says it views the appointment of Mr Brajesh Mishra of India as the United Nations commissioner for South-West Africa/Namibia as provocative. The appointment is particularly provocative at this sensitive stage of the independence negotiations for the territory. South Africa says in a letter to the United Nations secretary general that the appointment again demonstrates that the United Nations has no desire to depart from its course of favoring SWAPO to the exclusion of the democratic parties in South-West Africa/Namibia. The South African Government says it cannot be held responsible for any detrimental effects which the appointment might have on independent negotiations.

BOTHA RULES OUT 'UNITARY' GOVERNMENT FOR BLACKS

LD161904 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says the constitutional future of the black people in the urban areas of South Africa is one of the greatest problems facing the country. However, the solution does not lie in the creation of a unitary system of government. Speaking in Parliament in Cape Town, Mr Botah said that a unitary system of government would mean giving in to numbers in a way that had led many other African states to desolation. Mr Botha said it could not be denied that a practical problem existed, but the South African Government was going out of its way to put the urban black people in a position where they had a large measure of self-government and greater responsibility. He also said the South African Government was negotiating for representation of the urban black people in the national and independent states in line with the policy of freeing nations and not simply regions.

OFFICIAL URGES COORDINATED NUCLEAR ENERGY PLAN

LD172216 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] The chairman of the South African Atomic Energy Board, Dr Wynand de Villiers, says a coordinated nuclear power development plan is essential if independence in the nuclear field is to be achieved. Dr de Villiers says in an exclusive magazine [as heard] published in South Africa that for the first time this weekend there is an imbalance between the use of coal and uranium in energy production in South Africa. By using fast-breeder reactors South Africa's 1980 production of uranium could generate more than 40 times its projected electricity (?capacity) by the year 2000, the equivalent of 9,000 million tons of coal.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET APPOINTMENTS

CA161746 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Summary] Prime Minister Comrade Mugabe has announced several Cabinet appointments. "Speaking to newsmen in Salisbury this evening, Comrade Mugabe said the reshuffle and appointments have been made in order to accommodate representatives of ZAPU who have expressed their desire to continue working with the government. He added that two members of the white community have been included in the Cabinet in line with the government's policy of reconciliation."

The new appointments are:

Minister of construction	Dr Callistos Nolovu, ZAPU member of Parliament
Minister of water resources	Comrade Msipa, former deputy minister of manpower planning and development
Minister of state in the deputy prime minister's office	Comrade John Nkomo, ZAPU member and former deputy minister of industry and energy development
Minister of housing	Comrade Simbarashe Nbengegwi, former minister of water resources and development
Minister of local government and town planning	Comrade Chikowore
Minister of state in the prime minister's office with special responsibilities for training and equipping the public service	Chris Andersen, former Republican Front member

Deputy minister of trade and commerce	John Landau
Minister of state in the prime minister's office with responsibilities for coordinating various ministries	Comrade Tarisai Ziyambi

Comrade Mugabe said that tomorrow he will announce further appointments of deputy ministers after consulting with the members involved.

SALISBURY NAME REPORTEDLY CHANGED TO HARARE

NC180925 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 18 Apr 82

[By Dave Clements]

[Text] Harare, Zimbabwe, 18 Apr (AFP) -- Zimbabwe's Government, moving to wipe away symbolic traces of 90 years of colonial rule, today changed the name of the capital city from Salisbury to the African place name of Harare (pronounced Hah-rah'-ray).

The long-awaited change came in conjunction with the celebrations today of the country's second anniversary of independence from Britain and of black rule, April 18, 1980.

President Canaan Banana, in his speech to the nation in Rufaro stadium here, started off by greeting "your worship the mayor of Harare", Tizirai Gwata. The president also referred in the speech to events of the past year in "Harare City".

Detailed announcement of the switch, and of changes in names of other towns and cities with names recalling the British colonial past, were expected later in the day in a statement from the Cabinet committee on new names.

It was the pioneers sent from South Africa by British empire-builder Cecil Rhodes who named this place Fort Salisbury, in honor of the then-prime minister of the United Kingdom, Lord Salisbury, when they arrived on September 12, 1880.

The new name, according to historians at the Zimbabwe National Archives, is derived from the Harava or Harawa clan of the Shona tribe that lived on the southern edge of what is now the downtown area at the coming of the whites. The African people of Zimbabwe, especially those in rural areas, have called Salisbury Harare for many years. The city has a population today of about 700,000.

CLASH REPORTED BETWEEN ARMY, NKOMO SUPPORTERS

AB170930 Paris AFP in English 0831 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Salisbury, April 17 (AFP) -- Army deserters fought a pitched battle with soldiers at a military camp in northwestern Zimbabwe this week, the ZIANA news agency reported.

In a dispatch late last night from Karoi, 190 kms (120 miles) northwest of Salisbury, ZIANA said one soldier was killed and three wounded in the firefight between loyal troops and the deserters, former members of minority leader Joshua Nkomo's guerrilla forces.

The account by the Zimbabwean news agency tied together a number of events that have occurred in the past couple of weeks in the northwest, all attributed to "dissidents" -- the government's term for renegade Nkomo combatants.

The dissidents have also been active in the southwest, Mr Nkomo's stronghold, where they have attacked a number of police and civilians, killing half-a-dozen in the past month.

ZIANA quoted Security Minister Emmerson Munangagwe as saying the attack on the Karoi camp was made by some of the deserters from 7th Battalion 2nd Brigade who were mentioned Thursday night by Prime Minister Robert Mugage in a television interview.

Some ex-members of Mr Nkomo's wartime Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA), who have been sneaking out of the Karoi camp for several weeks without leave, returned to base Wednesday night to steal food and try to persuade other former ZIPRA men to join them, ZIANA said.

When this attempt failed, the battle ensued. The agency did not give casualty figures for the deserters.

ZIANA also said the shooting death Tuesday of Robson Gundhu, a rural storekeeper in the Urungwe tribal area near Karoi, was the work of dissidents from the Karoi camp.

The ex-ZIPRA men who Mr Mugabe said had been moving in the Mushumbi Pools area of the Zambezi valley, north of Karoi, were also deserters from the same battalion, ZIANA said.

The agency said the troubled unit was now being transferred to northeastern Zimbabwe, between Mtoko and Mrewa, and another was being brought into Karoi.

Most of the ex-ZIPRA men are Ndebele speakers from western Zimbabwe. The tribal areas around Karoi contain a mix of the minority Ndebele -- Mr Nkomo's tribe -- and the majority Shona people, from whom Mr Mugabe's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) draws most of its support.

In Ntoko-Mrewa, however, most of the people are Shona, and any Fort Erizipra deserters would find it hard to go very far before they were reported by the public, unlike at Karoi.

When he was fired from government in February on charges of caching arms to use against the state, Mr Nkomo told reporters he hoped the newly unified army, made up of former Nkomo and former Mugabe guerrillas along with some ex-Rhodesian soldiers, would not "disintegrate" as a result of the action against him and the confiscation of his party's property where weapons were found. The following month, three top military men from ZIPRA -- including the deputy commander of the national army, Lieutenant General Lookout Masuku -- were arrested in connection with the arms cache investigation.

Mr Mugabe acknowledged Thursday that there was now serious suspicion between former ZIPRA and former ZANLA (his old Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) men in the army, but that most battalions had remained intact. There are about 30,000 former ZANLA combatants, 15,000-20,000 ZIPRA men and 3,000-5,000 soldiers who served under the old regime in the Zimbabwe Army.